

The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 28th.

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Latest Arrivals.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD.
			Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Kanagawa			April 1
Nagasaki			March 25
Hakodadi			" 16
CHINA—			
Peking			" 18
Tien-tsin			" 18
Hankow			April 2
Shanghai	Feb. 10	March 31	" 11
Yoo-Chow-Foo			" 8
Amoy			" 9
Swatow			" 15
Hong Kong	" 26	April 11	" 15
Canton			" 15
Macao			" 15
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	" 10		" 8
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Touron			" 6
Saigon			" 2
SIAM—			
Bankok			" 2
BORNEO—			
Labuan			" 14
Sarawak			" 14
JAVA—			
Batavia			" 16
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	March 17	April 21	" 23
Penang	" 10	" 2	" 23

The French mail, with dates from Hong Kong to 26th April, arrived at Suez on 25th, and the mail will be here on the 4th June.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, to Marseilles, per Syria, arrived May 26.—From Shanghai: Messrs. Reg. Russell, W. Watson, Stubbendorf, R. Daly. From Hong Kong: Messrs. Rodger, Escherich, M. Roldan, Pedro Largo, M. Duadadi, and S. Sedano, Miss A. Lyndon, and five second-class passengers. From Singapore: Mr. J. R. Smith.
To Southampton, per Ripon, expected to arrive June 1.—From Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter, two children, and servant, Col. Reeves, Lieut. Bennett, Messrs. C. Cooke and Lambert, seven second-class passengers. From Singapore: Mr. S. Davis and C. Lorenzen. To Gibraltar.—From Hong Kong: Mr. C. Valliacencio and two second-class passengers.
To Alexandria, per Golconda, arrived at Suez May 19.—From Shanghai: Mr. R. Gutschow, Mr. W. T. Tyers. From Hong Kong: Messrs. Youngman and Stephenson, Mr. E. H. Burgoyne.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, 20th May, from Southampton.—To Singapore: Mr. T. R. Waters, Mr. and Mrs. Ricketts and child. To Hong Kong: Rev. W. A. Rutherford, Mr. Kilby, Messrs. P. Sale, R.N., S. Thomas, R.N., and J. Morgan, R.N. To Shanghai: Mr. F. Whitmore, and four second class passengers. To Calcutta: Messrs. W. Jordan, A. Gordon, W. S. Blackhall, H. H. Locke, and J. P. Keatley. Assistant-Surgeons Troup, Lawless, Cunningham, A. Thompson, A. Turner, A. Preston, and J. P. Dalmege, Dr. J. Anderson, and four second class passengers. To Madras: Mrs. Dauckert, Ensign G. H. Dale, and one second class passenger. To Ceylon: Mr. R. H. Hamilton. To Alexandria: Messrs. Summers, Davies, Cartwright, Cheatham, Nimmo, Johnston, James and Hoaking, Mr. and Mrs. Barras and child.
From Marseilles, May 28.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. von der Heyde, and European female servant. To Shanghai: Mr. Broadbent. To Hong Kong: Mr. F. Muselius. To Calcutta: Messrs. Wilson, H. Heath, and S. B. Carpenter, Capt. Angus, and one second class passenger. To Madras: Rev. J. Richards, Mr. Symonds, Mr. J. C. Campbell and servant, Mr. R. Bell. To Ceylon: Mr. C. Tatham.
Per P. and O. steamer Delta, 4th June, from Southampton.—To Singapore: Mr. J. Tyndall Woods. To Shanghai: Mr. S. Marcus. To Hong Kong: Mr. J. M. Hollingsworth, Assistant-Surgeon M. M. Magrath, R.N., Mr. R. Morris, R.N. From Marseilles, 12th June.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Bannatyne. To Shanghai: Mr. H. Bruynd, Mr. F. J. Batteke. From Gibraltar.—To Shanghai: Mr. J. de Argniz.
Per P. and O. steamer Delta, June 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Lieut. C. C. King, R.M.A. To Singapore: Capt. G. Mairis, R.M.A. From Marseilles, June 12.—To Hong Kong: Don Antonio, Moraleda.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN. KANAGAWA.

The intelligence by the present mail confirms to the fullest extent the statements made in the *London and China Telegraph*

of the 13th inst. in the article headed "The Tycoon brought to Bay." It will be seen by the following, which we take from the *Commercial News* of the 30th March, that the Tycoon has made submissions to the Mikado, and that the Conference, of which we spoke in the article named, has made its report long before this date, which there is every reason to believe will have been in favour of an extended opening to foreign commerce. Our contemporary says:—

"The most important epoch in the history of our relations with the Japanese is before us. The Tycoon, having been compelled to pay obeisance to the Emperor—having been called upon to refute and answer the charges of his accumulating enemies—has, through wise counsels, succeeded in not only ingratiating himself with the Mikado, and being the recipient of another token of his regard in the shape of higher rank and title, but has won the admiration of several of the most powerful Daimios, and a good understanding has resulted from his fearlessness and promptitude in daring the emergency. The question as to foreigners and Japanese foreign policy is not only agitating the higher powers at Miako, but is the all-absorbing topic with all classes of Japanese, and pervades all communities. And rightly do they judge of its importance. All other matters fade before the single one, for as they decide now, so will they have to abide. It has been contended by the several Daimios now at Miako that the Mikado and Tycoon should, for the safety and welfare of the country, delegate power to half-a-dozen of the great Daimios, representing all phases of political opinions, to confer and decide as to the will of the nation in regard to foreigners; and that the views agreed to by those six Daimios should receive the sanction of both the Mikado and the Tycoon, and become the law of the land. In a spirit of conciliation, and with a desire to produce harmony in the empire, the following Daimios have been appointed, and have entered into a conference:—Etchizen, Tosa, Aids', Stutz'bashi, Shimatz'saboro, Oowajima. We recognise in the above list staunch friends of foreigners and of a liberal policy, to the end that Japan be opened to unrestricted trade and unlimited prosperity; and although two, if not three, are as unremittingly opposed to all concessions, and evince a desire to see the country freed from our presence, we do not despair of the result. The effects of opening the country to foreigners by a decision of the conference will prove that step the wisest they can adopt. Our advices from Miako report that a decision by the conference will be had before third Japanese month, or about the middle of April."

It will be remembered that we stated Satsuma had received permission to bring a considerable quantity of silk to market for sale to the foreigner. It seems that the Mikado has put in his claim also for a share of the profits derivable from the trade of Kanagawa.

At Kioto, Osaka, &c., proclamations are said to have been issued by command of the Mikado and the Tycoon, notifying to the people that there is no immediate cause for fear or distrust; and that they may continue their trading operations with foreigners. It is reported that an arrangement has been come to between the Mikado and the Tycoon, by which the former is to be benefited by foreign trade to the extent of fifteen thousand rios (\$25,000) per annum; which sum is to be levied upon raw silk. When the Spiritual Sovereign and the great feudatories have had some taste of the benefits that

flow from commerce with the ~~foreigner~~; we need have no fear that the amicable relations once entered into will be lightly broken off.

The rumour that one of Satsuma's ships had been fired upon and sunk in the Straits of Shimonoseki turns out to be true. The following is Satsuma's own report of the affair to the Gorōjō, or Council of State:—

The Prince of Satsuma had borrowed one of the Tycoon's steamers at Nagasaki, and she had gone to Satsuma's domain. Being in want of repairs, she was sent through the Inland Sea, on her way to the Nagasaki foundry to be repaired, on the (24th Jan.) 22 of the 12th moon of last year. Two days after this she came to an anchor in the Straits of Shimonoseki at eight o'clock in the evening. Shortly after this, the batteries on the northern shore opened fire upon her. Supposing that the steamer had been mistaken for a foreign vessel, the commanding officer ordered signal lanterns to be hoisted at the mast heads, according to an agreement entered into among the Daimios, to provide against such a misunderstanding. The signals were made and hauled down. But the firing commenced again, and as there was no attention paid to the signals when repeated, there being no help for it, the anchor was weighed, and the steamer directed towards the harbour of Shiro-no-e Mura, in the district called Awotoma, on the coast of Kokura. But a fire soon broke out in the ship and she was consumed before she reached the port. Of the ship's company, nine officers, and nineteen others, including the engineers, lost their lives. Their bodies have not been found.

Tsiosiu, Prince of Nagato, who is the offending Daimio, pleads ignorance, and blames those on board the steamer, for neglect of the preconcerted signals, which should have been shown in time to prevent mistake. The steamers *Foh-kien* and *Scotland* are reported to have been purchased by Satsuma.

Professor Risley's amphitheatre was opened on the 28th March, and a large audience, consisting of upwards of 300 persons—Japanese, Chinese, Europeans, &c.—attended, and at eight o'clock the performances commenced. The arrangements as to lights, seats, &c., were very well made; and judging by the enthusiastic applause which greeted the conclusion of each act, we conclude that the circus is the most popular amusement we have yet had at this port. The Japanese seemed delighted beyond measure with the feats of horsemanship, and with the high training of the dogs, all of which is something quite novel to them.

YOKOHAMA.

The following is a continuation of the Review of the Export Trade from this port, the first portion of which appeared in the *London and China Telegraph* of the 13th inst.:—

Raw Cotton has formed a very important branch of—indeed it may be said to have assumed the second position in—the export trade from this place during the last six months. It has given employment to a considerable number of vessels to Europe and China, and has proved, most conclusively, that this country possesses resources far beyond what is generally imagined by persons not acquainted with it, which resources only require inducement and opportunity to develop themselves.

Two years ago, as we have before observed, cotton was an article of import, and even when we closed our last report, only a few shipments had reached home from this. These few, however, had important results, for they convinced those connected with the trade that the Japan cotton is superior to China and to most of the Indian growth.

It is, therefore, not to be wondered at that, keeping pace with the great excitement prevailing in all the leading markets at home and in the East, a great demand should have manifested itself, resulting in considerable transactions at advancing rates during July, August, September, and October. At this period supplies began to decrease, the old crop's yield being exhausted. During July and August prices had advanced from \$16 to \$20; they declined in September to \$19; but advanced in October again to \$20. Towards the middle of November, as supplies of the new staple came to market, they were eagerly purchased at about \$23 to \$24; they however continued rather small during November, but then the effect of the high prices ruling began to tell upon producers, and, consequently, in December the cotton was freely supplied, and under the influence of favourable advices both from home and from China, the demand became very active, and prices advanced to \$31 and \$31.50 for best qualities.

The exports of cotton during the last six months of 1863 amount to 24,539 bales, and we calculate that would comprise about 4,000 of the new crop.

The exports for the two half-years show an amount for 1863 of 33,187 bales; or, taking the weight at 1½ piculs per bale, which we think may fairly be assumed to be the amount of the bale on average, 53,078 piculs.

We are happy to say that, apparently no restriction has been put upon the supplies of cotton, although on several occasions there were reports that the Japanese authorities would take some measures to curtail them, and there is every reason to believe that the native dealers experienced some difficulties in bringing down the staple to Yokohama, difficulties, however, which the large profits made by them determined them to brave and overcome.

We cannot end this slight review of this trade without again remarking upon the enormous increase which has taken place in the culture of cotton in Japan. We cannot ourselves go into the cotton-growing districts, and we are therefore limited for information to those accounts which the native dealers may vouchsafe, without any check as to what the amount of their reliability may be. So far as may be judged from this source, there is reason to believe that they regard this crop as having been very successful. We learn, too, from them that they estimate that the yield is about double that of former years, and that much more cotton has been planted than formerly; nor can it be doubted that, since the effect of the high prices lately ruling will have begun to be felt by the original producers, their efforts would naturally be redoubled to increase the crop of a staple in so great demand in the ports open to European commerce.

We must permit ourselves one further remark before closing; and that is of felicitation that at the present time, when the supply from America has ceased, when every bale from an outside quarter may be regarded as a boon to our starving operatives, a supply from an hitherto unexpected source has risen up, amounting to such a sum in a few months as that we have above quoted.

In our next number we shall publish a portion of the Tabular Returns of the Navigation and Trade of Yokohama for 1863.

HAKODADI.

Dates from this port are to the 16th March. The American steamer *Meteor* arrived from Nagasaki on the 10th, and on the 13th was passed over to the Imperial Government for the sum of \$47,500. The new duty tariff came into operation here on the 1st day of the second Japan month. The principal alteration is the reduction from 35 to 5 per cent. on liquors; and the understanding that, in future, foreign Government officers are to pay duty on stores landed for their own use, in the same way as others. According to the Custom-house returns, the export trade of this port (by foreigners) for the past year was \$267,538, against \$167,025 for 1862; a very decided increase.

It is now generally believed here that we must add another to the casualties in shipping in the neighbourhood during this winter. The *Dove*, a Prussian three masted schooner, Captain Wieland, left for Shanghai on December 12, in company with the *Osborne*. On the 14th the latter vessel put back to Hakodadi, with some damage to her sails, and several of the crew frostbitten. The captain reported very heavy weather at the western entrance of the Strait of Tsugar, which, together with the strong current setting into the Strait, and the intense cold, made it impossible for him to beat off the land into the Sea of Japan. He last saw the *Dove* on the 13th, endeavouring, also, to beat off the land. Shanghai and Nagasaki reports make no mention of the *Dove*, and, as there has been no native report of any vessel driven ashore, it is presumed that she foundered in the storm which caused the *Osborne* to put back. This case is more particularly distressing as Captain Wieland had his wife and family on board.

OURSELVES AND THE "JAPAN HERALD."

We observe that a "Subscriber to the *London and China Express*" has called the attention of the *Japan Herald* to an unintended piece of injustice committed against the last-named journal by the former in its issue of the 26th November last. The *London and China Express* of that day stated that the report on foreign trade, so highly spoken of by Colonel Neale, made its appearance in the *Japan Commercial News*. Our "Subscriber" corrects us by pointing out that the article in question first saw the light in the *Japan Herald* of the 16th of January, 1863. We can assure our friends in Japan that the error was simply an oversight, and not the result of any "dirty trick played" upon us. An occasional slip of the pen, being but mortal, we confess ourselves liable to; but those who may attempt to "play tricks" upon us will assuredly find them detected and punished. We are glad, however, to have had the error of the 26th November last pointed out to us, and to be thus enabled to restore to our valued contemporary the *Japan*

Herald the entire credit of the article, which had the almost unprecedented honour conferred on it of being copied into the *London Gazette*, the official organ of the British Government.

CHINA.

PEKING.

From the capital there is no news of importance. The American Minister had requested Prince Kung to interdict any supplies to the *Alabama*. The following is the notification issued on the subject:—

The Board of Foreign Affairs is fully aware that a treaty of peace and amity exists between China and the United States; it cannot be permitted, therefore, that American citizens coming here to trade shall suffer injury from any one while living in the country, nor their ships or goods be destroyed. Now, the steamer *Alabama* has been burning American vessels with their cargoes on the high seas; and she must not be allowed to enter our ports, still further to destroy their ships, and every other vessel with similar evil designs must be likewise forbidden to enter them.

We therefore hereby notify all the governors general and governors of the maritime provinces to enjoin all the local authorities to keep a careful and close oversight; and if the steamer *Alabama*, or any other vessel of war, scheming to injure American property, approach the coasts of China under their jurisdiction, they are to prevent all such entering our ports. Let them also directly issue a proclamation, embodying all these circumstances and reasons, for general guidance.

A copy of this despatch has been communicated to the Ministers of Great Britain, France, and Russia, as well as to the American Minister, Mr. Burlingame; and it is accordingly forwarded to the Manchu commandants, the governors-general, and the governors along the coasts for their action thereon.

Horse-racing, under the most adverse circumstances, always prospers with Englishmen. A second meeting has been held at the capital, which came off with the greatest *éclat*, and was graced by the presence of the principal members of the foreign legations and several high Chinese officials. A capital luncheon was served, of which the principal gentlemen present, both native and foreign, partook. The drilled Manchu force was exercised on the ground, between the races, to give variety to the entertainment.

TIEN-TSIN.

The following account of the occupation of the foreign community will be found interesting:—

We are in the middle of the Chinese New Year's holidays. The main streets of the city and suburbs of Tien-tsin are turned into a market place. A vast quantity of the red candles, coloured lanterns of all shapes and sizes, carved red paper, kites, toys, artificial flowers, and all sorts of sweetmeats and dainties, in short, everything necessary for the celebration of the New Year, is exposed in the streets for sale. Pictures, some of huge size, are exhibited on the walls and everywhere a suitable place can be found; the whole street looks like a picture gallery. It would be difficult, however, to say to what school the paintings belong. We were surprised to find even some French pictures (those cheap sheets of paper covered with soldiers and other figures) amongst the array. Occasionally you may see little boys, who, with very grave faces and gestures, are hard at work to exercise the Chinese reverence and shaking of hands, indispensable during the New Year's festivities, and practised all over China on the first day of the new year.

Whilst the Chinese population is thus busily engaged, the foreign community of Tien-tsin is by no means idle. Tien-tsin in winter is a splendid place for recreation, and we would advise all those whose health has suffered, and whose nerves are relaxed through the influence of Hong Kong or Shanghai summers, to go to Tien-tsin or Chefoo, and spend a winter there. The months of December, January, and February are delightful; the air serene and bracing. Of all the different amusements and games practised here during the time that we are icebound, skating and coursing are most adapted to give the body vigour and health.

Riding has, no doubt, a most sanative influence, but we don't mean riding alone; it is riding in company which is calculated to give body and mind strength and new life. Fancy the pleasure of riding on a cold but calm day thirty miles across country, with a lot of jovial fellows, eagerly looking out for hares or foxes. This may every day be seen, and all classes of the community, whether official, professional, or mercantile, give themselves up to the excitement of the time. It will be easily seen that the Tien-tsin residents may be taken as a model in one or two cases. They know how to drive away *ennui*, and they do it.

SHANGHAI.

The following are the items of general news:—The London mail of February 10 arrived on the 31st March. The weather had been unseasonably mild for several days, but the general

health of the community was not affected. An amateur theatrical performance was given by the sailors of H.P.M.S. *Gazelle*, lying in the river.

Burgevine, the ex-general, has turned up again from Japan, and been arrested by the American Consul.—The culprits who seized the *Tsailie* have made their escape from gaol.—On the 31st March a daring robbery was perpetrated in broad daylight in the centre of the English settlement. A bank coolie, engaged in carrying a box of sycee, was surrounded by five armed Cantonese, while passing along Church-street, between the premises of the Commercial Bank and those of Messrs. Birley, Worthington, and Co. A policeman and a soldier of the 67th Regiment, who happened to be passing, saw the men break open the box and endeavour to escape with eight shoes. They immediately gave chase, and at length captured two, the other three having succeeded in making good their retreat. Another case of a somewhat similar description occurred on the 27th. A coolie carrying a chest of silver along Temple-road was attacked opposite the London Mission, and the chest robbed of four hundred Mexican dollars. The thieves escaped, and have as yet evaded detection.

The Municipal Council for 1863-64 have submitted to the land renters their report for the past year. The Rev. Mr. Yates has been compelled through failing health to resign, temporarily, the office of interpreter.

Circumstances having delayed the arrival of the new Superintendent of Police, the Council considered it inexpedient to proceed with the contemplated alterations in the organisation of the force. The strength of the force is at present 126 men, but a large increase is proposed. The streets are again to be partially broken up; but as it is for the purpose of laying down gaspipes, the matter is rather one for congratulation than for regret.

The following particulars with regard to Major Gordon's reverse at Kintang are from the *Shanghai Recorder* of March the 28th:—

We have received advices from Major Gordon's force up to the 25th inst., and now continue our narrative of its movements from the period of the occupation of Leeyang. We are sorry to have to record a serious reverse which the Imperialists have met with at Kintang:—Major Gordon, Colonels Kirkham, Tumbelty, Williams, Major Brown, A.D.C.; Captains MacMahon, Mansell, Brinning, Willson, Williams, Creamer, Ralldimore, and another wounded; Major Toute and fifteen rank and file killed, and ninety wounded.

The city of Leeyang being got into a state of quiescence, Major Gordon with the 1st, 2nd, and 5th Regiments, and proportionate force of artillery, marched on the 16th *en route* to the city of Kintang, in possession of there ebels, and the same night reached a village some 12 miles to the north of Leeyang, where, mid the vast ruins, a few houses still remained with roofs, which afforded shelter for the troops in preference to tents pitched on the ground saturated with the continuous rain. These practical sons of Han soon each took up the breadth of his back where he tossed off his blanket and accoutrements; wood was as quickly collected, and fires lighted—a flat cooking pan supported on a few bricks, rice, some salt fish and water, and chow-chow was soon ready, which disappeared with tremendous despatch, and with apparently as much relish as the most daintily prepared repast.

The line of march was the main road from Leeyang to Kintang. On the right lay lakes and hills; on the left a broad outwork of creeks through which the flotilla of boats crept at a steady pace. The land lies low and flat, and has all the appearance of having been a most fertile grain-producing plain, though it is now fast returning to that state of swamp from which the industry of ages had reclaimed it. Mulberry trees line the banks of the creeks, uncared for; reeds and other aquatic productions occupy the place of the cereals; old walls and ruins mark the dwellings of a once numerous, peaceful, and industrious population, of whom there now remain but a few half-starved cadaverous-looking creatures, prowling about with hollow cheeks, sunken eyes, and tottering gait, picking up such herbs as are visible; while skeleton after skeleton, white and bleached, lie all along the way, felled either by the hand of the soldiers of great peace as an amusement, or plundered and burned out of their dwellings, as they sunk from starvation.

The same devastation and ruin was present all along the remainder of the march to Kintang. There is no sign of the soil having been cultivated for some years, and this is a district which has been in the undisputed possession of the rebels for over four years.

Kintang is a district city standing in this vast plain, now little better than a desert, 30 miles north of Leeyang, the same distance to the west of Chan-chow-foo; unlike most of the cities in the hands of the rebels it has no outworks of defence, nor do the walls seem to be changed from their original state. On the morning of the 21st instant, the boats and guns were passed into a basin to the east of the city, distant from the wall only five hundred yards, without any opposition on the part of the garrison, beyond a few musket shots expressive of their disapproval of the proceeding. The heavy guns and mortars were placed opposite the angle of the wall to breach it, while the smaller guns and mortars were arranged so as to enfilade the *terre plein*.

The usual display on the part of the garrison was entirely absent; there the grim black walls stood without a single colour or spear visible.

The guns opened fire at 12 o'clock, bringing down ponderous masses of stone, clay, and brick, at every discharge, until at the end of two hours a breach was formed practicable to ascend; yet not a move on the part of the defenders. The advance was sounded, the 1st regiment by the bridge across the city ditch, and portions of the 2nd and 5th regiments by boat. The colours vied with each other in the ascent of the breach, but scarcely had their brave bodies set their foot on the top of the walls, than overpowered by overwhelming numbers, pouring on them musketry, bricks, stones, fire balls, and every other kind of missile procurable, they rolled with the advancing masses to the bottom, like a broken wave. Three times covered by the artillery, which did great execution, the party rallied and rushed up the breach, but with the same result.

Unfortunately at this stage of the proceedings Major Gordon was wounded and had to be carried to the rear, but getting into his boat he pushed forward and ordered up Col. Kirkham with the fresh companies of the 5th Regiment. The breach was again mounted but in vain—the defenders still held their ground; Kirkham was now also wounded and placed *hors de combat*. Again the breach was cleared by the artillery, and fresh companies of the 2nd Regiment coming up, the officers rallying their men, accompanied by Major Brown carrying Gordon's flag, made a most desperate attempt to establish themselves in the breach; the struggle for mastery lasted for several minutes, victory wavering in the balance, when the elements decided the day by a hurricane of wind and rain. The assailants slowly retired disappointed but not beaten. The force encamped in its position for the night, but news having reached of the Imperialists falling back from Chan-chow-foo, and the communications being threatened, the operations against this city (inasmuch as they were meant to press on Chan-chow-foo) were now without object, consequently the force withdrew and returned to Leeyang. Taking from them a portion of the garrison, Major Gordon continued his march to oppose the Rebels in the neighbourhood of Weosieh, at which place he arrived on the 25th.

In the operations the wounded and killed were as follows:—Major Gordon, Major Brown, Colonel Kirkham, Colonel Tumbelty, Colonel Williams, Captain MacMahon, Captain Mansell, Captain Brinning, Captain Willson, Lieutenant Williams, Lieutenant Creamer, Lieutenant Raddimore, and Lieutenant ——— wounded; Major Tonte killed. Ninety rank and file were wounded and fifteen killed.

The following account is from the *China Mail*:—

The reverse which the Imperialists under Major Gordon sustained at Kintang admits of explanation, and we are glad to know that it has not damped the spirits of the disciplined force. So far as we have been able to ascertain, the circumstances are these:—The force left Li-yang on the 16th of March, and proceeded twelve miles that day and five more the next. On the 18th, they halted, marching again, on the 19th, when they arrived within four miles of Kintang. On the 20th, they advanced to within 700 yards of the city. The force numbered only 1,000 infantry and 350 artillery. The city is small, with no stockades, and the rebels did not venture out of it, nor were any flags visible on the walls.

At 10 A.M. on the 20th, just as the siege guns were landed, Gordon received letters that the Imperialists had fallen back from Chang-chow-foo to Woosih. This was a derangement of the general plan, for it had been determined that the Imperialists should press Chang-chow-foo as hard as possible while Gordon attacked Kintang. It was of importance that the two places should be threatened at the same time, so that neither might assist the other. The intelligence that Chang-

chow-foo had been for three days without an enemy in front of it caused Major Gordon to doubt the policy of attacking Kintang; but as his arrangements for the attack were made, he considered that it would look awkward to withdraw. The attack was therefore proceeded with. In two hours a good breach was formed, and the Major led the assault in person. Hitherto the rebels had only replied feebly to the fire of the Imperialists, but as soon as the attacking columns reached the crest of the breach the most obstinate resistance was encountered. The colours of the first regiment were seized in the hands of the man who carried them, and lost after a desperate struggle. Meantime Gordon received a bullet through the fleshy part of his thigh, in consequence of which he had himself carried to the rear, and the assaulting party also retired, beaten. Gordon then directed Major Kirkham to renew the attack, which he did, both he and his men fighting bravely, but again they were repulsed, and Kirkham dangerously wounded by a bullet in the shoulder. A third time the assault was made under Major Brown, Gordon's aide-de camp, and with a similar result, Brown also being slightly wounded. The rebels fought very desperately, and the affair is said to have been worse than Taitsan. Brickbats, stones, and stinkpots were poured down upon the advancing column in great profusion. After the third attack had failed it began to rain tremendously, and the assault was abandoned for the day. Ten or twelve officers were wounded, and Major Chute of the 2nd Regiment was killed. Of the rank and file from 80 to 90 were killed and wounded, about 20 being killed. During the night the rebels attempted to surround Gordon's small force, but were forced to retire, having been rather warmly received.

The appointment of the Rev. W. J. Smith as British Consular Chaplain at this port, has been officially notified to the Church trustees by H. B. M. Consul. [We presume this is only a temporary arrangement, as the following announcement has been made here during this week:—The Rev. Charles H. Butcher, M.A., Fellow of University College, Durham, and curate of Hammersmith, has been appointed chaplain to the Church Establishment at Shanghai, China.]

KIUKIANG.

Some excellent races took place at this port on the 23rd and 25th March. Up to within two days of the time fixed, the weather had been so unpropitious that it had been proposed to train buffaloes, as the only animals capable of wading through the sea of mud which was where the course ought to have been. On the 20th, however, it cleared up, and the races came off most successfully; the omnipresent Aunt Sally being in attendance.

HONG KONG.

The dates are down to the 15th of April. The French mail of 17th of Feb. arrived out on the 2nd of April, and the P. and O. mail of the 26th on the 11th. The following items of news are from the *China Mail*:—

A fire occurred in one of the China houses in a street leading from Lascar-road to Taipingshan. As the locality is rather dense, and the dwellings very combustible, fears were at first entertained for the entire neighbourhood. Captain Quin was first on the spot, and had no less than five of the fire-plugs opened and a hose attached to each. The water played beautifully from each of the hose, and drenched out the fire in two hours. There was no disorder, but one Chinaman was apprehended while leaving a house with a bag of dollars belonging to an old woman who lived in one of the houses. Another old woman frantically implored some one to save a box she had left behind, and, on this being done for her she acknowledged the favour with many chin-chins. Two houses were burnt down before the fire was extinguished. The water-plugs were of immense value; some fire engines which were brought to the spot were not called into requisition.

The amateur performances for the season of 1863-4 came to a close last night, when the "Tailor of Tamworth" and the "Aladdin" burlesque were performed. Of the former we have already spoken, and have only to add that it was better played on this occasion than on the previous one. This we attribute to the increased familiarity with their parts which the performers had gained by experience, and it shows the value of rehearsal.

The Sailors' Home is still not nearly finished, and the money raised (\$38,000) more than spent, the committee being in debt to the contractor. This is a pity, to say the least of it, and we call attention to the fact as one which cannot be too widely known. The principles upon which the institution

would have been conducted were liberal and sound; the necessity for such a building admitted on all hands; the moral and physical interests of the sailors frequenting this port loudly spoken of; and more than half of the sum hitherto collected was paid by a gentleman now deceased. We have reason to think that the late Mr. Joseph Jardine would have paid all the money required to build a Sailors' Home, had he not believed that the community would gladly be represented in the matter by sharing with him in the expense. They have not done so in the proportion or to the extent which might have been expected, and the result is the present unfinished building. These things are facts. When looked at fairly, the conclusion cannot be avoided that we should be doing a foolish thing to leave an unfinished building, with a debt even upon the part of it that is built, and commence the erection of a Public Hall, let the necessity for such an institution be ever so urgent, and the opportunity for building it the most favourable that could be had. It is very hard; but there are the facts, and what else can be made of them? The Clock Tower is a smaller matter, but still a case in point. We are truly a strange community, to do as a body what as individuals we should view as absurd and foolish.

A more desirable scheme than the City Hall was never propounded in Hong Kong, and the opportunity offered in the affair of a site leaves nothing to be desired but the funds to go on with. But the dead lock now arrived at was inevitable, and the plea for the Sailors' Home unanswerable.

At a meeting of the Legislative Council the minutes of last meeting having been read and confirmed, the President moved the second reading of a Bill to authorise the appropriation of a supplementary sum not exceeding \$151,770.65. The Council next resolved themselves into a committee to examine the items in detail, which were all agreed to, and the Bill was passed.

It was next moved that an Ordinance be passed to give effect to Her Majesty's proclamation of neutrality between the United States and the States calling themselves the United States of America. The Hon. Mr. Perceval pointed out that the Act could be evaded by laying down munitions on the opposite shore, which was admitted to be true. The Bill having been read, was then passed.

His Excellency said, with regard to the Mint, he had to thank the non-official members of the Council and the Surveyor-General. He thought that they had selected the best site, viz., Causeway Bay. The distance was a drawback, but that might be got over by a ferry steamer. The Surveyor-General said he would have to reclaim twenty acres of land.

With regard to the Bankruptcy Ordinance, it was agreed that it should be examined by the committee appointed for that purpose; and to have their report ready before the next meeting of Council. The council adjourned until Saturday, the 16th day of April.

A correspondent has directed the attention of owners and commanders of the steamers trading up and down the China Sea, to there being an abundance of good coal to be had at Coal Point, Labuan Island. The weather was noticed as being disagreeably heavy and rainy towards the end of last week, and an opinion advanced of hottish weather following, which view has not, however, as yet proved correct.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
		6s. 5d. to 6s. 6d.	6s. 6d. to 6s. 7d.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	...	...
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6 ditto	...	...
At Canton			
At Hong Kong	6 ditto	4s. 10d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 1d.
At Macao			
At Singapore	6 ditto	4s. 10d. to 4s. 10½d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 0d.
At Manila	6 ditto	...	...

At Shanghai: Bills on India, Rs. 302 to 304 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong: Rs. 226 to 227 per \$100. Bar Silver at Shanghai. Hong Kong, 4 premr Mexican Dollars at Shanghai; and exchange on Hong Kong, 26 to 27 discount.

BORNEO.

SARAWAK.

(From the *Straits Times*.)

The progress of Sarawak cannot fail to interest even those who are in no way connected with the country. It has been said by Mr. Crawford, and other eminent writers, that a European settlement in any well-peopled part of the Archipelago, just enough to abstain from oppression and to deal fairly, and

strong enough to enforce obedience from and secure protection to its people, cannot fail of success. Sarawak is working out that problem to its extreme, and its development would seem to bear out the conclusion indicated. The difficulties that beset the foundation of the country were greater than can be readily conceived, and for many years there was a constant sink of money. Now, however, a tide of substantial return appears to have set in. The trade returns have year by year been improving. The following are the returns of last year, which have just reached us:—

IMPORTS, 1863.				
	Coast.	Foreign.	Total.	
Tonnage	10,062	7,420	17,482	
Treasure	\$43,776	\$53,586	\$97,362	
Gold	8,298	"	8,298	
Opium	"	14,500	14,500	
Cloth	"	146,252	146,252	
Tobacco	40	39,651	39,691	
Gutta	128,650	"	128,650	
Wax	17,242	"	17,242	
Rice	32,528	11,798	44,326	
Paddy	23,914	"	23,914	
Sago	72,697	"	72,697	
Brassware	618	27,709	28,327	
Cocoanuts, oil, &c. ..	24,863	"	24,863	
Camphor	3,740	"	3,740	
Sundries	31,347	70,698	102,045	
Total	387,713	364,194	751,907	
Imports, 1862	259,176	268,323	527,504	
Increase	128,537	95,866	224,403	

EXPORTS.				
	Coast.	Foreign.	Total.	
Tonnage	11,734	7,162	18,896	
Treasure	151,545	7,676	159,221	
Gold	11,860	4,590	16,450	
Opium	1,156	"	1,156	
Cloth	104,639	"	104,639	
Tobacco	21,145	"	21,145	
Gutta	"	181,918	181,918	
Wax	"	9,788	9,788	
Rice	12,331	"	12,331	
Paddy	4,519	"	4,519	
Sago Flour	"	64,634	64,634	
Sago (Raw)	"	7,050	7,050	
Brassware	45,303	"	45,303	
Cocoanuts Oil, &c. ..	5,313	1,384	6,697	
Camphor	"	1,000	1,000	
Antimony	"	26,140	26,140	
Nests	"	14,065	14,065	
Iron and Steel	494	"	494	
Crockery	930	"	930	
Salt	1,524	"	1,524	
Sundries	58,039	10,669	68,708	
Total	418,798	328,914	747,712	
Export, 1862	279,056	365,196	644,251	
Increase	139,743	"	139,743	
Decrease	"	36,282	36,282	

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

IMPORTS.				
1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
406,466	400,226	378,067	527,504	751,907

EXPORTS.				
1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
431,550	514,389	362,211	644,251	747,712

The above abstract of the coast and foreign trade of Sarawak shows the steady increase of imports and exports for the year 1863 over the four preceding years. In the years 1860 and 1861, the trade in Sago was destroyed for a time on account of the Mukah war, at the settlement of which the sago ports were opened, and the product which had been so long locked up was brought to Sarawak for sale, increasing the returns considerably, since which time there has been no intermission in the trade. The increase in the quantity of Gutta Percha forms an important item in the returns for 1863, and one which is likely to continue, both Malays and Dyaks being actually employed in working the forests. The foreign import trade is chiefly with Singapore, Java, and the Malay Peninsula, carried on by large native prahus of tonnage ranging from 40 to 190 tons, also the steamer to Singapore, and brigs or schooners as required. The foreign export trade is in sago, gutta, antimony, rattans, and timber, exported direct to England. The rivers from which most of the imports are derived are the Rejang for rice, gutta percha, wax, and rattans; the Batang Lupar for rice, paddy, gutta percha, wax, and gold; the Mukah Oyah and Matu rivers for sago in the raw state; Bintulu, gutta percha, camphor, wax, birds' nests, and rattans; Serebas, rice and gutta percha; Kalucka, rice and gutta percha;

Sadong, rice and birds' nests; Lundu, rattans, cocoanuts, and oil from the islands adjacent. This is expected to be much increased by the opening up of trade with the Kayans of the Rejang, from whom there is nothing but good news.

JAVA AND NETHERLANDS INDIA.

Dates from Batavia are to the 14th April. The value of cotton and woollen goods imported into that port during the month of February last, was as follows:—Dutch, 476,409f.; foreign, 337,342f. At a sale by the Billiton Tin Maatschappij, 3,370 piculs of tin were sold, averaging 68 19f. per picul. The *Wyoming* left Batavia Roads on the 8th April, steering north-west.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates from this port are to the 23rd April. The London Mail of the 10th March reached there by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Jedlo* on the 15th, and the French mail with dates from London to the 17th, and Marseilles to the 19th March, arrived on the evening of the 21st.

The decision of the Home authorities regarding the transfer was anxiously looked for. April would close the official year 1863-64, and the Government Administration report would appear a couple of months afterwards. It is expected to show a considerable reduction in public works, and a steady yield for the Stamp Tax, of the proceedings of which only four months were included in last year's accounts. Some attention has again been directed to the progress making by the Dutch in the north-west coast of Sumatra. The Batavia papers complain that the Indian journals should term that progress "encroachment." The rights of the Dutch to this magnificent island are founded upon the treaty with Holland in 1824; and it would certainly seem that England then not only withdrew from the island, but acquiesced in the assumption by the Dutch of supremacy thereafter. All that was reserved was a stipulation from the Dutch that they should make no treaties with the native princes tending to exclude British trade or commerce, or to expose it to a disadvantage. Strong suspicions have been excited by the reports brought in by native traders, that exclusive treaties have latterly been concluded, and these suspicions are thought to gain weight by the circumstance that imports, both to Penang and Singapore, of Sumatra produce, have lately declined very much. No actual proofs of such treaties have, however, been brought forward. Indeed, no copies of any of the treaties lately made between the native princes and the Dutch have revealed this, and it is consequently impossible to say what they may contain. It is very desirable, observes the *Straits Times*, that the public mind should be set at rest on this subject, and for this purpose the Foreign Office at home should apply to the Hague for copies of all treaties recently concluded in Sumatra, and when obtained, they should be sent out to the authorities here; for any complaints against the Dutch at present are made entirely in the dark.

The long drought had not yet been fairly broken. Within the three days before the 23rd some heavy showers had fallen, but of anything like continuous rains there had been none. Besides great damage to the fruits and vegetation which this condition entailed, a great scarcity of water in town had resulted.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

DOS REMEDIOS—On the 10th April, at Macao, the wife of F. A. dos Remedios, of a son.
KENNERLY—On the 12th April, at Mount Zion, Singapore, Mrs. Kennerly, of a son.
PARKES—On the 22nd May, at 32, Priory-road, Kilburn, the wife of Sir H. S. Parkes K.C.B., of Charleston, South Carolina, of a daughter.
SINCLAIR—On the 5th May, at Brussels, the wife of Charles A. Sinclair, Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul for Chin-Kiang-Foo, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

CATERS—CUNNINGHAM—On the 17th May, at St. Andrews, St. Castle, Douglas, by the Rev. S. Cowan, of Kilton, Capt. Robert Hannah Cairns, late of Kirkcubright, to Jessie, eldest daughter of the late Robert Cunningham, Esq., of Larkhall. No cards.
FABRIS—JENKINS—On the 5th April, at Trinity Church, by the Rev. R. Hamilton Edward Antonio Fabris, Esq., of London, to Julia Catherine, only daughter of the Rev. Dr. Jenkins, of Charleston, South Carolina. No cards.
WOLFE—MACLEHOSE—On the 12th April, at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. Thomas Stringer, M.A., the Rev. John Richard Wolfe, of Fulham, to Miss Mary Ann Margaret Maclehoose.

DEATHS.

ANDERSON—On the 24th May, at the Grove, Norwood, Surrey, Mary Ann, wife of Arthur Anderson, Esq., Chairman of the Peninsula and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, aged 62.
CHAPMAN—On the 7th April, at the Government Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, Edward Lloyd Chapman.
D'EGEA NAGAO—On the 31st March, at Shanghai, Carlos Maria, the infant son of Albino D'Encarnacao.
KING—On the 8th April, at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, Edward King, private H.M. 99th B. regiment.
LEISK—On the 11th April, at Mount Erskine, Singapore, Anna, the wife of Captain W. C. Leisk, aged 55 years.

MAINE—On the 4th April, on his way home, on board the P. and O. Co.'s steamer China, Samuel Maine, Esq., of Yokohama, Japan.
MOLKSWORTH—On the 5th April, at his residence, Portland w.n. Lodge, Notting-hill, much beloved and most deeply regretted by all who knew him, Lieut. Robert Molksworth, M.L.S.W., R.M., aged 39, fourth son of the late Capt. Arthur Molksworth, R.M., for the last seven years Editor of *Thacker's Overland News*.
MATHESSON—On the 11th April, at Hong Kong, on board the Hercules, Georg Mathesson, sergeant, R.E.
ROBINSON—On the 21st March, at the Seamen's Hospital, Hong Kong, William Robinson, seaman ex-British barque Bristol.
STEPHENS—On the 11th February, at Melbourne, Henry Stephenson, assistant with Messrs. Parker and Co., of Hong Kong.
SWANSON—On the 27th March, at Shanghai, Mr. William Swanson, aged 33 years.
TAPLIN—On the 21st March, at Yokohama, of small-pox, Frederic Taplin, engineer H.M.S. Argus, aged 36.
WILLIS—On the 9th April, at Hong Kong, on board H.M.S. Melville, Charles Willis, seaman H.M.S. Pelorus.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—MACAO.—New Tyshans, arrivals to date amount to about 1,400 bags of the Kysow fashion leaf, under private contracts, now in course of preparation for shipment, which would, however, only be equal to some 1,700 to 1,800 half chests when packed, after the process of firing, picking, and sifting; there seems to exist a great competition in the country which enhances the cost, and prices are reported higher by 2 to 3 taels.

CANTON.—The clearing of the Shanghai market of Congous, simultaneously with the shipments hence on China account, advised in last report, has to some extent tended to make holders of that description firmer in some instances. That is to say—some holders have refused offers quite as good as the rates at which late settlements were made, whilst others, either pressed for means or apprehensive at the near approach of the new season, have accepted prices which range as far as 1½ tael less. The fall established may be called one tael, the current quotations laying teas down in London at only one penny above the rates ruling there at date of last advice. A few musters of Tyshans, country make, have been exhibited, and one small lot has been placed at a high figure. Scented Teas remain neglected. The market has been cleared of Country Greens for shipment to New York. In Canton Greens there is no alteration. The following are the settlements of the fortnight. Congoes 10 chops—say blackish leaf Pekoe flavour at 21½ to 24½ taels and blackish leaf Pekoe flavour at 26½ to 30, taels; also 230 half-chests Tyshans at 30½ taels. Scented Teas non-. Canton Greens, 5,000 boxes Gunpowder at 18 to 20 taels. Country Greens, 2,900 packages at 42½ to 45 taels, making the total settlements of the season 11,250 packages. The stock is reduced to 21 chops of Congou, and a few Canton Greens and Scented Teas.

FOOCHOW.—There is no change to report in prices. The settlements of the fortnight are reported as under. Congous, 2,576 chests and 456 half-chests at 7 to 14½ taels for low and dusty to common, and 15 to 18 taels for good common to flory. Souchongs, 866 chests and 226 half-chests at 16½ to 23 taels for common to fair. Oolongs, 1,364 half-chests at 13 to 15 tael common cargo. Scented Teas, 2,900 boxes at 17 to 18½ taels for common. The following is a list of arrivals, sales (including contracts) and stocks on hand, comparing this season with the last.

ARRIVALS.

	1863-64.	1862-63.
Congou	547,800 chests.	572,700 chests.
Souchong	60,570 do.	33,900 do.
Pekoe	7,700 do.	11,900 do.
Oolong	178,900 half do.	217,300 half do.
Scented Tea ..	73,400 boxes.	132,850 boxes.

SALES AND CONTRACTS.

	1863-64.	1862-63.
Congou	544,950 chests.	570,700 chests.
Souchong	60,000 do.	33,900 do.
Pekoe	7,100 do.	11,200 do.
Oolong	176,400 half do.	216,200 half do.
Scented Tea ..	72,570 boxes.	133,050 boxes.

STOCKS.

	At present.	Same time last year.
Congou	2,850 chests.	2,000 chests.
Souchong	570 do.	Nil.
Pekoe	600 do.	700 do.
Oolong	2,500 half do.	1,100 half do.
Scented Tea ..	830 boxes.	800 boxes.

SHANGHAI.—Black: Settlements for the fortnight on the market, 1 chop or 616 chests; re-shipped on owners' account, 2 chops or 505 chests; together, 3 chops or 1,121 chests, making total to date 393,089 chests. Stock waiting shipment and for resale, 8 chops. The quotations are:—Second and third crop Oopacks and Ningchows, tls. 25 to 28; second and third crop Oonhams, tls. 20 to 25; second and third crop Hohows, tls. 17 to 21. Green: Previous to the arrival of the English mail on the 31st ult., the market was very dull, and although teamen appeared more willing to realise, yet no decline in price was established. Since then there has been more demand, and rates within the last day or two are decidedly firmer. The stock is now very small. Reshipments and settlements for the fortnight:—7,431 half-chests Fychows, &c., 946 chests Pingsuey, 796 half-chests Japan and Shanghai packed—9,173 half-chests, making total to date, 282,450 half-chests. Stock of green tea is estimated at 5,309 half-chests Fychow, &c., and 1,100 chests Pingsuey; together, 7,009 half-chests.

KEWKIANG.—Greens: The finer kinds are a shade easier, whilst the commoner sorts have commanded full rates. The transactions of the fortnight comprise:—

900 half-chests Fychows ..	at 22	taels
5,300 do. Moyunes	do. 31 to 40½	do.
500 do. Kewkiang packed ..	do. 29	do.

6,660 half-chests.

The stock is computed at 15,000 half-chests country, and 2,500 do. Kewkiang packed. Of the former full half are fine teas, the remainder being principally low and undesirable. In Black Teas there have been no transactions. The total settlements of the season to date amount to 110,609 chests Black, and 208,750 half-chests Green, against 53,000 chests of the

former, and 257,300 half-chests of the latter, corresponding period of last season.

HANKOW.—The transaction of the fortnight is 1 chop Congou at 14s. 5c., making the total for the season 657 chops. The stock on the market is 10 chops, held at 13 to 15 taels.

YOMOHAMA.—Little demand is experienced, with the exception of some for the United States, and there is very little alteration in prices. The unfavorable reports from the home markets are probably the cause of shyness of buyers, and we expect that little will be done prior to the arrival of the new crop, which may be looked for thirty days from date. Quotations:—Fine, \$26 to 33; Common, \$13 to 22; Medium, \$23 to 25; Ordinary, \$11 to 12.

RAW SILKS.—**SHANGHAI.**—Early in the fortnight the market was very quiet, influenced by late unsatisfactory advices from Europe, and the Chinamen becoming more anxious to realise submitted to a decline of about 10 taels per picul on Tsatlees, Yuenfas, and Hainings. This led to the sale of about 35 bales, and as the dealers still appear willing sellers, the present rates are not likely to be maintained in the face of a rising exchange. The Imperialists have at length taken Hangchow and Kashing, and should the peasants be allowed to remain in these districts without being disturbed, the future supply may be increased. From Japan 188 bales have arrived, which go forward by this steamer. The latest advices quote high prices still ruling with a stock of about 250 bales on the market. The settlements of the fortnight are reported at 350 bales, against 800 bales corresponding fortnight of last year, and 2,000 bales the corresponding fortnight of the previous year. The present stock is 3,500 bales, against 8,000 bales same period last year, and 3,000 the year before. The following are the latest quotations:—Tsatlees: No. 2 chops, 425 to 430 tals.; No. 3, 405 to 415 tals. per picul. Rod: No. 3 chops, 395 to 405 tals.; No. 4, 380 to 390 tals.; No. 5, and common, 365 to 375 tals. per picul. Taysaams: No. 1 and 2, 390 to 410 tals.; No. 3, and inferior, 340 to 380 tals. per picul. Yuenfa: No. 1 and 2, 395 to 415 tals.; No. 3, and inferior, 370 to 395 tals. per picul. Hainings, 370 to 410 tals. per picul.

YOKOHAMA.—Foreigners are not inclined to do business, but the market has continued firm throughout the last month. Settlements do not exceed 135 piculs. There is not much alteration in quotations except for best kinds, which have been offered and taken at a little higher rates. Receipts are trifling, but have increased in a degree. The unsold stock, chiefly hanks sorts, is estimated at about 150 piculs. Quotations:—Ida, medium, \$530 to 550. Mybush, best, \$550 to 560; medium, 530 to 540; inferior, 515 to 525.

DRUGS, &c.—**MACAO.**—Cassia Lignea: Sales 1,600 piculs at prices ranging from \$14.90 down to 14.60, leaving in stock 400 piculs. Cassia Buds: The small parcel last reported as offering at 61, has been withdrawn from the market in the absence of a buyer at the price. Cassia Oil: None nominal rate 210. Aniseed Oil: Sales 60 piculs at 143 to 145; stock 25 piculs held at the latter figure. Star Aniseed: Sales 150 piculs at 17.50 for inferior quality, stock 150 piculs of similar kind held at 13. Galangal Root: Sales 300 piculs at 2.80 on Chinese account, for the Straits, leaving in stock 900 piculs, which may be had at easier rates. Gall nuts: None. China Galls: Small sales on Chinese account at 12.50. Ginger Preserves: Sales for the Straits and India at 2.90 for best. Vermilion: Sales for India at 38.50.

CAMPOR.—**HONG KONG.**—No sales reported and no further supplies arrived. The parcel of Japan is still held at \$23 to 24, which buyers are not inclined to pay. Of Formosa Camphor a supply is expected shortly, which will find a ready sale at \$16.50 to 17 per picul.

COTTON.

SHANGHAI.—Before the arrival of the London mail of the 10th February, there were few buyers, even at taels 20 per picul; this was attributed to the unsatisfactory state of the Schleswig-Holstein question; since the arrival of the mail, prices have gradually improved, and are today—Shanghai, No. 1, taels 21.5 to 22; No. 2, taels 20; No. 3, taels 17 to 18; Hankow, taels 21.5 to 22; Kong Poh—the bulk of this description on the market is unsold on account of being very inferior, good description selling at the same rate as Shanghai No. 1. There are some parcels of very inferior Shanghai offering on the market, at from taels 13 to 16. Settlements, since the departure of last mail, are between 10 and 12,000 piculs. Stocks on hand and the parcels coming in from the country are very small. The Shanghai No. 1 Cotton now coming into the market is of the very best description, the country people retaining the best cotton until the last for the purpose of extracting the seeds for planting.

CANTON.—The sales of the fortnight amount to 2,200 bags Shanghai, 1,300 do. Ningpo, and 1,000 do. Shantung, at an advance of 5 mace. The stock remaining unsold consists of 2,000 bags Shanghai, 830 do. Ningpo, and 1,000 do. Shantung.

HONG KONG.—The advices from Europe are not encouraging, and, consequently, exporters having retired from the market, the native demand governs prices. This demand has been tolerably good, and has taken off during the fortnight about 6,500 bags at the following rates:—Shanghai, \$31 to \$33.75; Ningpo, 33.50 to 34.75; Japan, 35.50. The stock on the market is computed at 25,000 bales. A few foreign holders are shipping in preference to selling.

AMOI.—The article is quoted \$33 to 34½. No stock.

NINGPO.—At date of last advices about 1,250 bags were on the market. \$35 per 118-catties being asked without finding buyers.

YOKOHAMA.—The market fluctuates, and there is an irregular demand; during the past month prices have receded to \$25 per picul, and with anything but a firm market, present rates are quoted at \$26 to 28.25.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—The value of this article remains without material change to notice, and the business of the fortnight is confined to the sale of 200 bales. Grey Shirtings: Have continued quite neglected so far as the Chinese dealers are concerned, the sales to whom only aggregate 500 pieces, but purchases on foreign account have swelled the settlements

which have been reported since the date of last circular to 27,500 pieces. Buyers have confined their attention almost entirely to 81 lbs. goods, the price of which is quoted slightly higher. White Shirtings: The settlements of these fabrics, estimated at 2,200 pieces, consist almost entirely of re-sales by Chinese and of goods imported from Singapore: quotations remain without change. T-Cloths: These goods are still in very limited request, and the bulk of the sales reported consists of cloths imported from Shanghai. Settlements are estimated at 7,000 pieces for the fortnight. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do. Brocades White and Coloured: These goods have been entirely neglected during the fortnight, and there is not a single sale of them to report. Damasks: Without sales to notice. Chin'zes: Have likewise remained without inquiry. Handkerchiefs: A moderate demand has existed for these goods, and the sales of the fortnight are put at 2,600 dozens.

WOOLLENS.—**SPANISH STRIPES, MEDIUM CLOTHS, LADIES' AND HABIT CLOTHS.**—There are not any sales of the above fabrics to report from this market by the present mail, and prices remain as previously quoted. From Foochow the sales effected amount to 156 pieces, taken at 85 to 90 cents per yard. Long Eds have likewise been without inquiry since the date of last circular, but a fair amount of business has been transacted in Foochow during the fortnight, and the sales reported aggregate 1,000 pieces of Scarlet purchased at \$8.60 per piece. Camlets: Without material alteration to notice in value, the business transacted in this description of goods amounts to 530 pieces, of which 200 pieces are of Dutch manufacture. Lastings: 100 pieces have been sold. Blankets have not met with any demand, and there are not any sales to report.

METALS.—**IRON, PLAT, &c.**: The sales effected during the past fortnight of the various descriptions of Iron enumerated have been upon a smaller scale than for some time back, and are estimated to amount to 1,420 piculs of Nail Rod, 1,200 piculs of Bar, and 420 piculs of Hoop. The value of Nail Rod is quoted slightly higher, but other qualities remain unchanged. In Canton, where Nail Rod also shows some improvement, sales amount to 800 piculs. Lead: Without any improvement to notice in quotations the sales of the fortnight amount to 1,500 piculs. In Canton quotations have again given way, and sales amount to 140 piculs. Tin: 30 piculs have been sold. Tin Plates have again met with a fair amount of inquiry, principally on foreign account, and the sales of the past fortnight are estimated at 500 boxes sold to Chinese, and 1,200 boxes purchased by foreign firms. Steel: There are not any transactions to notice.

The Tabular Returns of Tea, Silk, &c., will be published in our next issue on arrival of French Mail.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE. ARRIVALS.

At JAPAN.—None.
At SHANGHAI.—From London: March 4, Challenger. From Newcastle: Susanna and Juno. From Hamburg: 6, Ida Maria.
At FOO-CHOW.—None.
At HO G KONG and CANTON.—From London: April 6, Robin Hood and 12, Edward Percy. From Liverpool: 4, Young Lochiwar. From England: 7, H.M.S. Pelorus. From Cardiff: 8, Jupiter. From Queenstown: 13, Archilles.
At MANILA.—From London: March 30, Trafalgar.
At SINGAPORE.—From London: April 11, Chanarla; 13, Bonnie, Lassie; and 14, H. Puddemsey. From Liverpool: 10, Athelstan; and 11, Gwalior. From Cardiff: 10, Monitor, Elizabeth; 16, Carita; and 18, Druses. From Newcastle: 11, Aguste and Meline. From Glasgow: 11, Bothwell Castle; 18, Bacchante. From Swansea: 16, Alida. From Bordeaux: 11, Jupiter. From Antwerp: 6, Ortelius. From Hamburg: 11, Carlotta; 15, Persia. From Amsterdam: 20, Bernard Agnes.
At BATAVIA.—From Liverpool: Carl Frederick.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—For London: March 10, Milbrook; 20, Meppel; 23, Alexander; 23, Ann Adamson.
From SHANGHAI.—For Liverpool: March 26, Glengairn and Fort, William; April 1, Advance; 2, Simoda; 6, Lauderdale.
From FOOCHOW.—For New York: March 27, Benefactor; April 2, Eva.
From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: April 12, Ethel. For Liverpool: 2, Berwickshire. For Bordeaux: 9, Johanna. For New York: 2, Sophia.
From MANILA.—For Cowes (for orders): April 1, John Barfield; and for Liverpool, Aureliana. For New York: May 23, Ocean Eagle.
From SINGAPORE.—For Liverpool: April 9, Victory; 18, C. Chisholm. For Bordeaux: 12, Java; and from New York, Reynard.

LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Canton, Abbotsford, Anglo-Indian. For Falmouth: Auld Reekie.
At SHANGHAI.—For London: Benvoirlich, Rajah (str.), and Osborn House. For Liverpool: Mayflower, Express, Neville, Elizabeth Nicholson, Helvellyn, and Unrivalled. For New York: Luzon.
At FOO-CHOW.—For London: Nitherby, on the way for new teas; Flying Spur, Dora (both in port), Serica, Fiery Cross, Belied Will, Ziba, Falcon, Ellen Rodger, Childers, Yang-tse, Sea King, (str.) Far East (str.).
At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Bahia and Aunt Lizzie.
At MANILA.—For Liverpool: Diadem and Trafalgar. For Cork (for orders): Victoria Cross. For New York: Isabella and Sea Serpent. For Boston: Fearless.
At SINGAPORE.—For London: Eleanor, Tartar, Couranto, Athelstan, and Prince of Wales. For Liverpool: terris and Harry Puddemsey. For Falmouth (via Penang): Hindustan. For Bordeaux (via Penang): Suez and Nantes.
At BATAVIA.—For Amsterdam: Johanna, Waal van Puttershoek, and Anna Sophia. For Rotterdam: Koophandel and Otto. For New York: Stockholm and Levant.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

JAPAN.—To England: Silk, £7; and £5. 10s. to £6 for cotton and tea, with good demand for tonnage.

SHANGHAI.—Freights are somewhat dull, and but few charters have taken place. The rates are:—To England, for tea, £4, and £4 to £4. 5s. for cotton.

FOO-CHOW.—To London, £5.

HONG KONG.—The following (from G. Holmes's circular) are some of the charters, which will best indicate the business done:—Glencoe, to Liverpool, £4. 5s. per ton. The Glenlee, Chandanagore, and Bahia on the berth at £4. 10s.; Chance (Falmouth for orders), £4. 10s., if for Continent 5s. extra. To Saigon and back the rates are 50 cents per picul, and 15 to 25 cents extra if ordered to northern ports. To Bangkok and back 50 to 55 cents per picul; 15 to 20 cents extra if sent north. Manila to Shanghai, 42½ cents per picul.

MANILA.—To Liverpool, unclayed sugar, £4. 10s.; hemp, £6. To New York, £4. 10s. dead weight, and £6 5s for hemp.

SINGAPORE.—For the rice ports, freights remain good for suitable-sized vessels, but for England tonnage is in excess of the requirements, causing the rates to decline, which are as follows:—Dead weight, £3. 10s.; light freight and measurement, £4. 10s. per ton.

BATAVIA.—Tonnage is extremely scarce, and a further advance has taken place in the rate for sugar, which is:—£5. 15s. per ton to the Continent; to New York, £5. 15s. per ton.

VESSELS PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDRA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—March 29, Niewland, from Sunderland to Hong Kong; 40, Karoline, Cardiff to Shanghai; April 3, Glen Aros, London to Hong Kong; 4, Bernhard and Agnes, Amsterdam to Singapore; 5, Shanghai, Newcastle, for orders; 11, White Adder, London to Shanghai.

From CHINA, &c. to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—March 25, West Batavia to London; 29, Macassar, Shanghai to Liverpool; 31, Samuel, Shanghai to London; April 1, Volunteer, Shanghai to London; 5, Black Watch, Hong Kong for London, and Lyolla, Manila to Liverpool; 7, Chieftain, Sarawak to London; Daybreak, Foo-chow, to London; Berdinkha and Sea Witch, Shanghai to London; 9, Helena, Hong Kong to Liverpool; and 16, Anna Forster, Batavia to Falmouth.

From CHINA, &c. to UNITED STATES.—March 29, Willy, from Manila; April 1, Milbrook, from Nagasaki; 4, Canton; 6, Solo; and 11, Ocean Eagle, from Manila to New York.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—May 23, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Tollens; from Padang, Van der Palm; at Texel, from Banjoewangie, Sophia Kon der Nederlanden; 24, at Liverpool, from Hong Kong, Cornelia Hendrika; 26, at Liverpool, from Shanghai, Veloz; at London, from Hong Kong, Rio; May 23, off the Start from Sourabaya: Regina Maris; 11, at New York, from Foo-chow-Foo: Santon; 12, from Manila: Caduceus; 25, at Texel, from Banjoewangie: Jan v. Schaaffelaar.

DEPARTURES.—May 25, from London, for Sunderland and Shanghai, Weymouth; 23, from Shields, for Shanghai, Queen of the Tyne; 24, from Newport, for Shanghai, Analyst; 26, from Liverpool, for Singapore, Prince Waldemar; 25, from Shields, for Shanghai, Bertha, from Cardiff, for Shanghai, Timavo, Trieste; 24, from Sunderland, for Singapore, Dunedin; 27, from Deal, for Shanghai, Constance; 28, from Liverpool, for Cardiff and Singapore, Florentin.

LAI D ON.—At London, for Singapore, Early Dawn. At Liverpool, for Singapore, Florentin. At Liverpool, for Hong Kong, Lodore. For Hong Kong via Cardiff, Virginia.

SPOKEN.—Souberg, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 11, 48 N., 7 W.; Batavia, Amsterdam to Batavia, May 10, 48 N., 8 W.; Kortenaar, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 10, 48 N., 7 W.; Philip van Marnix, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 8, 47 N., 10 W.; Helene and Anna, Dutch ship, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 12, on the line 22 W.; Barque, 3rd d.p., No. 5481, London to China, 10 days out, May 11, 47 N., 9 W.; Johannes, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 12, 2 N., 23 W.; Huydecoper, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 13, 50 N., 2 W.

The Lochoo barque, Warden, from Ardrossan for Shanghai, has been totally wrecked on the north bank of the Yangtze-kiang; three men reported missing.

The Tricolour, Price, from Liverpool for Hong Kong, put back to Holyhead, May 26, leaky.

THE P. AND O. STEAMER "CANDIA" IN A CYCLONE.

The passage to India and China by the overland route is generally reckoned on as a simple question of so many days, and persons speak of taking a run out and being back almost before they are missed in this country. An exception to this general rule has just occurred to the P. and O. Company's steamer *Candia* on her way from Aden to Galle with the outward mails of the 4th-11th April. Her mails were transferred to the *Messageries Imperiales* steamer leaving Aden with the outward mails of the 17th April. In a late issue we recorded the transfer of the mails from one of the French boats to a P. and O. steamer; thus the public have the benefit of the harmonious working of these two companies. Thanks to the good sense which guides their affairs. The following is the Captain's report:—

"Aden, May 5.

"THE DIRECTORS OF THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

"I regret to have to advise you of my return to this port on the 3rd inst., having been compelled to put back, owing to damage received on

the 29th of April in a heavy cyclone off Ras Ulloolah, in latitude 12. 48 longitude 51. 12.

"We left this port for Galle on the 27th, and experienced very fine weather, with smooth water, until the morning of the 29th, when it suddenly changed.

"At 2 A.M. I was called as usual. It was then beautifully clear and fine, with a light breeze from the northward, and we made all plain sail. At daylight we met with a heavy easterly swell; the weather then had the appearance of rain; the barometer remained steady.

"At 9 A.M. the barometer suddenly fell two-tenths. I then gave orders to take in the topgallantsails, and double reef the topsails; before that was completed the barometer had fallen three-tenths more, and the breeze was rapidly increasing. The foretopsail was just reefed when it blew away; hauled the foresail and furl it, and secured it with the studding sail gear, &c.; the main and mizen topsails were left on the cap double-reefed; the carpenter and his mates employed securing tarpaulins, &c.

"By noon the barometer was down to 29.10, and it was blowing furiously; the main and mizen topsails were blown out of the bolt ropes.

"At 3.30, finding that I was running into the centre of a cyclone, I hove the ship to, with her head to the N.N.E., keeping the engines working slowly. By 1 P.M. we had a most terrific gale; the ship was completely buried to leeward, and taking in tons of water, which washed the tarpaulins off the skid gratings, and an immense quantity of water found its way on to the main deck, and down the fore stoke-hole, &c.; the lee boats were washed away; the weather quarter boat blew out of the tackles and was lost. The weather lifeboat was blown inboard altogether, bringing the davits with it. About 3 P.M. the mizenmasthead carried away, the maintopmast and foretopgallantmast soon followed, the leeward cathead was washed away, and the anchor washed off the forecable, but the shank painter held it. We were not able to send any hands forward to secure it, and the following morning we found it had knocked a hole in the bow, but well above the water-mark.

"At 4 P.M. the barometer commenced to rise: the ship was then in a fearful plight, the water increasing fast in the stokehole and engine-room, ship labouring heavily all the sails blown out of the gaskets, the deck-gear either washed away or smashed, awning booms carried away by the force of wind alone, lee bulwarks gone in many places, lower booms, hencoops, and ladders washed overboard. Mr. Miller, the chief engineer, reported to me that he could not keep steam up any longer, owing to the quantity of water in the stokehole. Stopped the engines. About this time Mr. Turner, second officer, who was engaged in securing the tarpaulins, was washed to leeward, and had his leg broken in two places by a hencoop. Set all hands (passengers and stewards included) to pump and bale.

"At 6 P.M. the gale was moderating, and the barometer rapidly rising; the ship then appeared a complete wreck, the whole of the starboard cabins were full of water, the berths and washstands washed down, and the whole of the baggage destroyed. From this time it gradually moderated, and the wind veered round to the S.E., and became fine; the pumping and baling was continued until 11 P.M. the following day, although at times we had great difficulty with the pumps, owing to their getting choked with the coal in the bilges.

"At 11 P.M. on the 30th got up steam and proceeded towards Galle; the following day, at 5 A.M., the engineer reported that he could not keep up steam, owing to the quantity of water in the stokehole. I then considered it prudent, as both passengers and crew were nearly exhausted, to return to Aden; turned the ship round accordingly, and set all hands pumping and baling again.

"On the morning of the 2nd I passed a large number of bales floating about, and one dead body. Pumping was continued until the 3rd, when we arrived at this port about noon.

"I cannot speak in too high terms of the whole of the officers; the manner in which they exerted themselves is beyond all praise; also of the passengers and stewards; they all worked with a will.

"On the morning of the 1st the passengers formed themselves into sanitary parties, and cleared the main deck of wet bedding and baggage, which was commencing to get offensive. I am sorry to say many of them are heavy losers, as, independent of the baggage in the cabins, a large quantity is damaged in the baggage-room.

"The officers and crew have also lost the greater part of their effects.

"The cargo, as far as we can see, has escaped damage.

"J. S. CASTLE, commander steamship *Candia*."

THE AMERICAN TELEGRAPH TO RUSSIA, &c.

(New York Herald).

WASHINGTON, April 21, 1864.

The efforts of Mr. Collins to enlist members of Congress and other prominent parties in his great enterprise of a telegraphic connection between Europe and America are, we understand, meeting with encouraging success. This subject has previously received the attention of Congress, in which body, it will be recollected, two very favourable reports were made three years ago—one by Senator Latham, of California; the other by Mr. John Cochrane, of New York.

Since the date of those reports Mr. Collins has spent a large portion of the intervening time in pushing his enterprise, mainly in Europe, where he has succeeded not only in interesting a considerable portion of the mercantile community in his projects, but in enlisting the patronage of Governments also. The fact of the valuable concessions made to him by England and Russia of the right of way through their dominions in the north-western portion of this continent, has already been made public. These concessions are valuable, as indicating the favour with which the enterprise is looked upon in other countries. They are valuable also in another point of view, for they offer such inducements to capitalists as will, it is believed, insure the speedy completion of the overland line to St. Petersburg and London with a very moderate degree of encouragement from the United States Government.

The enterprise of Mr. Collins is thoroughly American in conception,

and is to be owned and controlled by American capital. For these reasons alone, therefore, it would seem to have peculiar claims upon the attention of the American public, as well as upon the favour of the Government.

A large portion of the Russian line with which the wires of Mr. Collins are to connect is already finished, and the work is now being rapidly pushed on at both ends—namely, from Irkutsk, in Eastern Siberia; to which point the wires are already working from St. Petersburg, a distance of four thousand miles, and from the Amoor westwardly to meet the Siberian wires. The parties who have undertaken the construction of Mr. Collins' portion of the line—that is, the connecting link between Europe and America, via Behring's Straits—are gentlemen of experience in telegraph matters. It was their enterprise which, taking hold of the Pacific line at a time when all other men shrank from it, and enlisting the sympathies of the Government in its behalf, carried it through to a successful ending, in spite of the warning of friends as well as capitalists to let it alone. The fact that these eminently practical as well as energetic individuals have put their shoulders to the enterprise of Mr. Collins, is an assurance that the project will eventually be accomplished. But as the work is eminently national in its scope, and as, moreover, much time must necessarily be consumed in its construction before any returns can be made for the vast outlays its proprietors must submit to, it would seem that Government ought to find in the enterprise a case eminently worthy of its fostering patronage. The small subsidy allowed the line to the Pacific has, we are told, been paid back over and over again every year, through the facilities of the line enjoyed by Government in its correspondence with its Pacific posts. Similar facilities, only quadrupled in value, will be the result of the completion of the Russo-American line.

To all undertakings of this nature, so vast in its proportions and so full of promise to the welfare and progress of the country, Government will but show a prudent regard to the future, as well as a generous spirit in extending a helping hand. Russia and Great Britain in granting the right of way through their territories, besides according other valuable privileges for the purpose of encouraging the enterprise, have therein set an example which our Government, it is to be hoped, will not hesitate to follow.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

OUR POLICY IN CHINA AGAIN.

(May 20th).—Mr. BAXTER, in rising, pursuant to notice, to call attention to the state of affairs in China, said that while he approved the policy of non-interference which had been pursued by the Government in America and in Europe, he could not express satisfaction with the course which they had taken in Asia, where their policy had been one of interference and war. If, he added, we persist in that policy much longer we should have to encounter difficulties, the importance of which it was impossible to exaggerate. He objected to our aiding the Imperialists in China on two grounds,—in the first place, because he believed that in doing so we were acting on a bad principle; and, in the second place, because he did not think our efforts in that direction were likely to be attended with success. He did not, however, deem it necessary, after the exhaustive speeches which have been made on the subject by the hon. member for Northumberland, and the noble lord the member for Cocker-mouth, to enter very largely into details on the present occasion. As a merchant owning goods in the treaty ports of China, he did not hesitate to confess that he naturally wished these goods to be protected; but it was, he admitted, a doubtful question whether he was justified in calling upon the general body of the taxpayers of this country to contribute their money with that object, under the exceptional circumstances in which China was placed. Be that, however, as it might, he felt perfectly convinced that he was not, as a representative of the people, justified in voting away their money to assist a dynasty in that country which he looked upon as tottering to its fall. He would, no doubt, be met at the outset by the argument that the Government had done nothing more than defend the treaty ports, and the Under-Secretary of State, indeed, had over and over again maintained that we had been guilty in China of no breach of neutrality; but if the hon. gentleman would read the speeches which he had made on the subject, he would find that while seeking to justify everything that had been done there, and everybody by whom it had been done, he had admitted more than once that our policy in China had been neither impartial nor uniform. The papers which had been laid upon the table of the House did not, at all events, bear out the statement that we had been guilty in that country of no breach of neutrality. In the first despatch of Mr. Hammond to Sir E. Lugard, in April, 1863, he found it stated that Earl Russell did not deny that there was inconvenience in the state of things pointed out by the Commander-in-Chief, but that Her Majesty's Government could not allow British officers who were only temporarily detached from their regiments to be making war on the Taipings all over China. Again, in March of the same year, Sir F. Bruce wrote to General Staveley to the effect that he was very anxious it should be borne in mind that we were not making war on the Taipings, while, in the month of June, the Secretary for the Admiralty, in writing to Mr. Hammond, said he was commanded by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send for the information of Earl Russell a copy of a letter dated 14th of the previous April from Admiral Kuper, respecting the proceedings of Captain Dew, of the *Encounter*, at Show-Shing, and to state that the Admiral had been instructed to inform Captain Dew that he had exceeded his instructions in taking part in hostilities beyond the prescribed limit of 30 miles. Now, these instructions were all very well, but there were unfortunately other letters of the noble lords which have a different aspect, as well as two letters from the Foreign-office, in the latter of which Mr. Hammond stated that he was directed by Earl Russell, to say that during the then existing state of affairs in the neighbourhood of Shanghai British officers on full pay should be allowed to join the force under General Gordon's command, and to serve beyond the 30 miles radius. There was, besides, among the papers for 1862 a curious despatch setting forth the opinions of the noble lord with

respect to the discipline to be observed in the British contingent in China, so that the instructions given on the one side of the question might, he thought, very well be set down against those given on the other. He would, however, appeal from the instructions to facts, which justified him in saying that we first broke our neutrality by our early operations within the thirty miles' radius round Shanghai, and subsequently by our operations at Ningpo, which was taken by a force commanded by Captain Dew. Our neutrality was again broken when the Commander-in-Chief of the British forces at Shanghai appointed Captain Gordon to the command of the Chinese auxiliaries. What was the character of these allies of ours, and what had been the proceedings of the men with whom it had been thought right to associate the soldiers of a Christian nation? The barbarities which were committed at Soochow were a sufficient answer to this question; but the blue-books were full of instances of the cruelty and perfidy of the Imperialists, and Sir F. Bruce had over and over again remonstrated with the Chinese Government upon the subject of the barbarous cruelties committed by their soldiers, which cruelties were defended by Prince Kung, the very man who was held up in that House by the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs as a man of humanity and enlightenment. (Hear, hear.) He now came to his second objection to the policy of upholding the Tartar dynasty—that it was not likely to succeed. In point of fact, we had been endeavouring to uphold a foreign dynasty which had never established itself in the affections of the people, and which those who had travelled in China told us would have fallen long ago if it had not been for foreign interference. Abbe Hue wrote that morality, arts, and industry had decayed, that poverty and destitution were making rapid progress, and that since the accession of the Manchoo dynasty Chinese society had undergone a great alteration for the worse. Captain Blakiston, in his work entitled *Five Years on the Yang-tze*, declared that since the accession of the Tartar dynasty everything in the empire had fallen into a languishing and expiring condition, and that the rebellion against the Government was by no means confined to the Taipings, but extended very generally over the population. He had rather accept this testimony, agreeing as it did with the evidence of all missionaries and travellers, than the statements of the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who represented everything as *coulour de rose*. Sir F. Bruce and the consul at Suanghai told a very similar tale. It had been asked how it was that if the dynasty was so weak it had held power so long. The answer was, that no revolution had ever been accomplished in China until after years of convulsion, insurrection, and civil war, and he, in his turn, might ask how it happened, if the Taipings were so universally detested as had been represented in that House, that fears were so generally entertained lest the Imperialist troops and the auxiliary forces themselves should go over to the rebels. (Hear, hear.) He observed with regret the support given by the Government to the expedition sent out under Captain Sherard Osborn, and more particularly the parting benediction of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and he rejoiced at its failure because it opened to us an escape from a situation of great embarrassment and difficulty. He hoped that we should date from that event a total change in British policy in China. Our whole policy there for many years past had been, not a comedy, but a tragedy of errors. (Hear, hear.) He freely admitted that the whole blame did not rest with the Government, but must be shared by both Houses of Parliament and by the country, and his object was not to cast reproaches upon any one for what had been done in the past, but to provide security for the future. In the last sentence of a despatch written in June, 1863, Sir F. Bruce said, "No course could be so well calculated to lower our national character as to yield our material support to a Government the corruption of whose authorities is only checked by its weakness." That was what we had been doing, and our ambassador still adhered to his opinion of the impolicy of our conduct. Only the other day his hon. and gallant friend the member for Aberdeen brought out the fact that in June, 1863, Sir F. Bruce, in concert with the other ambassadors at Peking, signed a memorandum in which he expressed these same views, and complained of the employment of British officers in the Imperial service. That memorandum had been presented to the American Congress; but it had been suppressed by our Foreign-office, because if it had been produced the Government would have been forced to change their policy. In June or July last year the noble lord at the head of the Government, in replying to the noble lord the member for Cocker-mouth, entered the House to wait for one year and see the result of the policy which was then being pursued. They had waited a year, they had seen the result of that policy, and every word of warning which was spoken by the noble lord the member for Cocker-mouth had been proved to be true. (Hear, hear.) Therefore, the question which he had to ask the noble viscount at the head of the Government, whom he was sure that they were all delighted to see again in his place (general cheers), was whether the Government meant in future to adhere strictly and honourably to the defence of British property in the treaty ports, refusing every kind of aid, direct or indirect, to the Imperialists, and abandoning altogether the attempt to bolster up and support the Government of Peking. He should also like to know what instructions, if any, had been sent to Her Majesty's servants in China with reference to this important question, and whether they had been enjoined for the future not only not to accept employment under the Imperial dynasty, but to take no step, however indirect, to support the Government of the Emperor. (Hear, hear.)

LORD PALMERSTON: I am quite ready to answer the question of my hon. friend, but I must be allowed to say I regret that, notwithstanding the acuteness of his mind and the ability which he shows on all occasions, he has come to conclusions which are not supported by the materials which he says he has searched and digested. (Hear.) My hon. friend started with a general theory, and nothing is so liable to mislead as a general theory. (Hear, hear.) My hon. friend said that the principle upon which the British Government ought to act is that of non-intervention in the affairs of other States—a very plausible principle, and one which, in many cases, ought to be strictly adhered to; but my hon. friend forgets that there are cases in which we have treaty rights—that there are cases in which we have national interests, and if his doctrine were to be applied rigidly and in every case, our treaty rights would be violated and our national interests would be sacrificed. (Hear, hear.) This has been the principle invariably acted on by the British Government. We have

interfered with great success in the affairs of other countries, and with great benefit to the countries concerned. We so interfered, for instance, in the affairs of Greece, and we established the independence of that State. (Hear, hear.) We interfered in the affairs of Belgium, and we established the independence of Belgium as a separate State. We interfered in the affairs of Portugal, and enabled Portugal to obtain a free and Parliamentary constitution. (Hear, hear.) We interfered in the affairs of Spain with like success and with a similar result. We interfered in the affairs of Turkey, of Syria, and of Egypt, and we maintained the integrity of the Turkish empire. These were all events preceding the Crimean war, and I do not think any man in this House will say that in that struggle we were unsuccessful. We have interfered in the affairs of China. Why? Because our treaty rights were endangered and our national interests were at stake. (Hear.) See how inconsistent my hon. friend was at the beginning of his speech and in its conclusion. He said he would never, as a member of this House, consent to throw upon the tax payers of this country burdens for the sake of protecting his interests in China.

MR. BAXTER said the noble noble lord had not properly caught his meaning.

LORD PALMERSTON: My hon. friend said it was quite true he had merchandise and interests in China, and that he would not call on the Government to protect them. (Hear, hear.)

MR. BAXTER: I said that might be an open question.

LORD PALMERSTON: My hon. friend now says that would be an open question. But in the question which he put to me at the conclusion of his speech, there was no uncertainty whatever, because he asked whether the Government would confine themselves to maintaining the security of our establishments in the treaty ports, in one of which I suppose his property must lie. ("Hear," and laughter.) I am bound to say that I quite concur in the propriety of maintaining and defending the security of British interests in the treaty ports. (Hear, hear.) But what has been the history of our interference in China? See the inconsistency of these mercantile gentlemen. They are constantly urging the Government to make treaties of commerce with foreign countries, and to extend the range of our commercial interests. Only the other day I received a deputation from the manufacturing districts urging that a reorganization of the Foreign-office and the Board of Trade should take place, for the purpose of enabling the Government more adequately to extend the commercial relations of this country. And the feeling no doubt was honestly entertained, because everybody must know that on the extension of our commerce depends the prosperity of our country, the accumulation of our capital, the abundance of our revenue, and the strength and prosperity of the nation. Any measure, therefore, calculated to increase the commercial relations of the country, so far from meriting the censure which my hon. friend, as a commercial man, thought fit to pass upon it, it is deserving of praise because it accords with the wishes and interests of the country. It was long felt that China would open a vast field of commercial enterprise to us; and there can be no doubt that among other things the great expansion of commerce with that empire has enabled us to meet without disaster the unfortunate obstructions to our commerce and manufactures occasioned by events still going on in America. (Hear.) My hon. friend says that the Chinese, especially the Imperialists, are a cruel people. Well, I have myself said in this House, and I repeat it, that the nature of the Chinese population is cruelly and perfidiously. But those qualities are not confined to Imperialists, they are shared in a far higher degree by the Taipings, who are peculiar objects of interest to some hon. members of this House. (A laugh.) My hon. friend talks about a massacre at Soochow. There was no massacre. ("Oh, oh!") There was a very treacherous act committed towards the Whangs, who were decoyed into the power of the Tartar commander, the Tootai, who revenged upon them what he stated to have been an act of great barbarity committed by them on a former occasion. I will not justify in any degree what they did. I am merely stating the extenuation put forward by themselves. But what happened the other day?—and this is a specimen of the acts of which Taipings are capable. There was a little steamer called the *Firebrand*, which they seized and carried off, and it was stated, and not contradicted, that four or five unhappy persons were roasted to death.

Colonel SYKES: By whom?

LORD PALMERSTON: By the Taipings.

Colonel SYKES: No, no! (Laughter.)

LORD PALMERSTON: I believe their bodies were found in a charred state, but there was no other proof of the fact. Of course persons in the interest of these people—who like to carry on a contraband trade with the Taipings, and to make a profit by supplying them with arms and ammunition—send home to their acquaintances high-flown panegyrics on the Taipings; but every impartial person writing from China bears witness to the desolation marking the track of the Taipings. (Hear.) The districts which they occupy are laid waste, the people reduced to starvation, and only the other day we heard of a place in which the people were obliged to eat human flesh as a last resource. Is that a state of things conducive to British commerce? (Hear, hear.) Is that a state of things the extension of which to the immediate neighbourhood of our treaty ports we ought to permit? (Hear, hear.) My hon. friend does not deny that as far as the radius of 30 miles from these ports extends, we are justified in what we have done, and that it is our duty to keep these marauding Taipings from making piratical incursions within those limits. But my hon. friend, in studying the Blue-books, has not studied with equal care the history of China. He talked of the present dynasty as a foreign dynasty; and though he did not say, he certainly implied that it had been recently established in a conquered country, and, therefore, had no root in the affections of the population. If I am not misinformed, I rather think the dynasty has been the best part of 500 years in existence.

Colonel SYKES: No; 250 or 260 years.

LORD PALMERSTON: Well, when a dynasty has been established in a country for 250 years, I think hon. gentlemen at least ought to admit that it is well rooted ("hear," and laughter), has a good hold on the population of the country, and is no longer entitled to be called a foreign dynasty. (Cheers.)

Colonel SYKES: India! ("Order, order.")

LORD PALMERSTON: I say that it is greatly to the interest of this country to maintain those commercial rights which the treaty concluded with China gave us. When first the war with China began Sir James Graham, a sagacious man, warned this House of the danger that must arise from entering into war with a third portion of the human race. I return that argument to my hon. friend, and I say, what must be the commercial advantages to this country if it can have an unimpeded uninterrupted commerce with one-third of the human race? (Hear, hear.) It is, therefore, for our interests that tranquillity should be restored in China. My hon. friend says that the dynasty is tottering to its fall. I can only judge from what reports reach us, but I should rather be inclined to say that the rebellion is more likely to end than the dynasty to be overthrown. (Hear, hear.) No doubt there are parts of China which are always threatened with rebellion more or less violent; but that, I am sorry to say, is the normal state of many of those Oriental Governments which lack the organization and energy necessary to maintain order throughout their entire dominions. Such has been the condition of Turkey; such has been peculiarly the condition of China, whose central government has always had the greatest difficulty in maintaining order in its remote provinces. But I can assure my hon. friend, as far as we can trust the accounts which reach us, that the Taiping rebellion has been narrowed to a much more restricted circle than it occupied one or two years ago; and that if we are to speculate on the future it will be safer to reckon that the rebellion is tending towards extinction, than that the dynasty is tottering to its fall. Besides, what must happen if the Imperial Government be overthrown? You would have nothing but extensive anarchy. (Hear, hear.) The Taipings are perfectly incapable of ruling the empire, and if they attempted to do so there would soon be fresh rebellions against them. In reply to my hon. friend, I stated that our interference as a direct interference has been limited to the treaty ports; but we certainly did give to the Chinese Government the assistance of British advice and arrangement in collecting their customs and improving their revenue, and great benefits have resulted to the Chinese Government from that assistance. (Hear.) Last year we issued an order authorising Captain Osborne and others acting under Mr. Lay to raise a squadron for the purpose of restoring order in the waters of China, and getting rid of the piracies which endanger navigation. My hon. friend says that when the expedition started he foretold its failure. Perhaps in that respect he was a better judge of Chinese character than we were. It certainly did fail, owing to the jealousies which existed between the central and provincial Governments, and to their desire to subject Captain Osborne to restraints and restrictions which he felt it would not be for his honour or for the advantage of this country to submit to. (Hear.) I regret very much that the expedition of Captain Sherrard Osborn did not succeed, because I believe that if it had gone on, and if Captain S. Osborn had been allowed to direct it according to his views, it would have put an end to that piracy which is now desolating all the coasts of China. That order in Council has been revoked, and there is no intention on the part of Her Majesty's Government to issue such an order again. Then there was another order in Council, authorizing any British subject to enter into the service of China. Major Gordon was one of those who took advantage of that order in Council. It has, however, been revoked, and there is no intention of renewing it. Major Gordon, I am sorry to see by the last accounts, has sustained a check, and has been wounded, I hope not severely. He is a most able and distinguished officer, and one who has performed great services for the Imperial Government, and my conviction is that if the Imperial Government could by his or any other means put down the rebellion, not only would they gain a great advantage for themselves, but they would confer an immense advantage upon the commercial interests of this country. All I can say is that it is not our intention to authorise any direct interference in the military or naval service of China as between the Imperial Government and the Taipings, beyond the protection to be afforded within a radius around our treaty ports. That is a duty which the Government owe to the commercial interests of this country, and I am quite convinced that if the commercial interests were assembled and were asked their opinion, they would say, "For Heaven's sake protect our commerce in China in the treaty ports." That commerce is daily assuming more and more importance, and is one of the means by which this country has weathered the difficulty arising out of the diminished supply of cotton from America. I trust my hon. friend will be satisfied with what I have stated, although I cannot agree with him in the conclusions he draws or the objects he desires. My opinion is, that the country at large will be of opinion that the Government are doing their duty in protecting the commercial interests of this country in China, as defined by the treaty with China; and so far is it from being desirable that the Tartar dynasty—that is, the Imperial Government—should be overthrown and that these ragamuffin Taipings—(a laugh)—should get the advantage, that those who know anything about China will feel it to be an object of immense importance that order and tranquillity should be restored in a country in which our commercial relations are so extensive—(cheers).

M. LINDELL said that the noble lord had expressed a hope that his explanation would be satisfactory. He felt compelled, however, to reply to some of the most glaring inconsistencies he had ever heard from a Minister of the Crown. The noble lord had spoken of the desolation which had been caused by what he termed the inroads of rebels. But the great silk producing districts, the increase in the trade of which the noble lord had so much prided himself upon, had been in the hands of the rebels for the last four or five years. [Colonel Sykes—"Since 1850."] The noble lord stated that the rebellion was waning, yet he next said that the troops, headed by a skilful English officer, had received a severe check. He could himself add that the French contingent had also received a serious check, and that in the opinion of persons on the spot there was a likelihood that Major Gordon and his force would be cut off. The successes of the rebels had been very considerable, and had followed each other in rapid succession ever since the last debate in that house. The noble lord had defended the policy of the Government in China, and had stated that it was intended to continue it. Had the noble lord, however, studied the advice of the Government Envoy in China, because the Government policy in every one of its most material points had been not only disputed, but absolutely contradicted, by Sir F.

Bruce during the last two years? It appeared to him that the Government ought either to follow the advice of their envoy in China or to recall him: It was rather significant that the noble lord began by telling the House that general theories were liable to mislead. He did not know whether that remark was applicable to a speech made lately from the Treasury bench in the noble lord's absence; but, if so, he must express his belief that if the noble lord at the head of the Government had been present those very misleading general theories would possibly not have been heard in that House. [The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER: "Question, question."] Perhaps his remark did not exactly bear upon the question; but at the same time he concurred with the noble lord that general theories were likely to mislead. After the experience which had now been had of the working of the Government policy in China, the House had, he thought, a right to expect a complete renunciation of that policy. The commercial interests connected with China disapproved the policy of the Government, and unless they confined themselves to the simple duty of forcing the Chinese to observe their treaty rights, our trade would be materially prejudiced. The noble Lord said that the Government had interfered because our treaty rights were in danger, but he should like to be told in what single instance our treaty rights or trade had been endangered. He had before asked, and he now asked again, for one single instance in which either the property or the life of a British subject had been placed in danger, except in a recent fatal occasion of reprisals. This was the sort of acts to which civil war naturally led; but the civil war in China had been pushed beyond its natural limits by the interference of Her Majesty's Government.

Lord NAAS said he felt that he could not enter upon the important question now before the House without interfering with the discussion which must be raised upon the motion of the hon. member for Rochdale. At present there was no question before the House except that the Speaker leave the chair, and it was impossible to ask the House to give an opinion on the subject. He must, however, enter his protest against some of the assertions of the noble lord, and, at the same time, express his disappointment that the events of the last year had made no change in the policy of the Government. He had hoped that the noble lord would have admitted that the new policy he had inaugurated in China was a failure, and would have promised that the Government would return to the policy which they pursued two years and a half ago. The noble lord had defended the policy of the Government, and said we were continuing in the same path in which we had been working for the last year and a half, and that we were bound to defend our treaty ports. No one denied that we were bound to defend our treaty ports, and, what was more, that we were bound to protect the property of British subjects in China. (Hear, hear.) But the policy of the Government went far beyond that (hear, hear); it went to the length of interfering in the internal and domestic affairs of that country. (Hear, hear.) We had sent a fleet to China, and had lent nearly 100 officers to command the forces, not of the Emperor, but of the local and provincial authorities. (Hear, hear.) He should be able to show on a future occasion that we had endangered the interests of our trade even in the opinion of our merchants themselves, and that our policy was in direct opposition to the views not only of our naval commanders, but of our most eminent representatives. In fact, there was hardly a man who was acquainted with the affairs of China, who did not see the enormous danger of the course we were pursuing, and was not anxious that we should go back to the principles laid down by Earl Russell after the Treaty of Tien-tsin, namely, that we should not interfere in the internal affairs of that empire. (Hear.)

Colonel SYKES said as there was a prospect of a full discussion upon this subject, he would limit himself to a few remarks. The noble viscount in saying that he had interfered in other countries had overlooked the motives for interference. In Europe we had interfered to protect the rights of the people against oppressive Governments, and that interference was to our honour in the cases of Belgium, Portugal, and, to some extent, Spain; but in China we interfered in behalf of a Government which had been described by Sir F. Bruce and other of our representatives there as the most corrupt, treacherous, and cruel Government on the face of the earth. (Hear, hear.) He held in his hand extracts from a paper which contained the real views of the representatives of the four great Governments in China—namely, Russia, France, America, and England, and which had been presented as an official communication by the American Secretary of State to Congress. That communication contained a despatch written by Sir F. Bruce on the 20th of June, 1863, and also details of the many conversations which had taken place between Sir F. Bruce and Mr. Burlingame. Those despatches had been sent to the Foreign-office, but when he asked for them recently, he was refused, on the plea that they related to the understanding upon which the foreign Governments in China were to carry out their policy, and could not be produced without injury to the public service. But though they would not be laid before the House of Commons, they had been presented to Congress. He would read the substance of Mr. Burlingame's despatch to Mr. Seward, which was in the possession of the Foreign-office, and was to be found in the library of the House. Mr. Burlingame says, "I expressed a warm desire that he (Sir F. Bruce) would present them (his views) to his Government, that they might become the basis of our future co-operation." He (Colonel Sykes) was indebted to the Under-Secretary for knowing that, because that hon. gentleman on a late occasion quoted as much as served his own purpose, and of course suppressed the rest. Mr. Burlingame went on to say:—

"He accordingly wrote the powerful despatch marked A, which he communicated to me for my private use, and which, with his permission, I send to you confidentially, with the most positive request that it is not to appear until it is first published in England. The three ministers hailed with delight this frank avowal. The policy upon which we are agreed is briefly this,—'That while we claim our treaty right to buy and sell, and hire in the treaty ports, subject, in respect to our rights of property and person, to the jurisdiction of our own Government; we will not ask for, nor take concessions of, territory in the treaty ports, nor in any way interfere with the jurisdiction of the Chinese Government over its own people, nor ever menace the territorial integrity of the Chinese Empire. That we will not take part in the internal struggles in China, beyond what is necessary to maintain our treaty rights. That the latter we will

unitedly sustain against all who may violate them.' To this end we are now clear in the policy of defending the treaty ports against the Taipings, or rebels, but in such a way as not to make war upon that considerable portion of the Chinese people by following them into the interior of their country. In this connection, while we feel desirous of what we know of it, to have the rebellion put down, still we have come to question the policy of lending Government officers to lead the Chinese in the field, for fear of complication among ourselves growing out of the relations to the employed, &c. That while we wish to give our moral support to the Government at the present time, the power in the country which seems disposed to maintain order and our treaty rights, we should prefer that it would organize its own people as far as possible for its own defence, taking only foreigners for instruction in the arts of peace or war, and these as far as possible from the smaller treaty Powers."

(Hear, hear.) It was stated by the noble lord at the head of the Government that the Taipings had roasted four Europeans; but there was testimony from a person in China to the effect that those four persons said to have been roasted in December were alive in January. In contrast with the assertions made of the desolations which accompanied the march of the Taipings, he directed the attention of the House to the following description by Dr. Legg of the proceedings of the Imperialists:—

"It behoves the British Parliament—the British people—to look to the new complication of affairs in China, to look it in the face. If we are to pacify the Empire, we shall require 50,000 troops, and may then find again that we have undertaken more than we are equal to. But, I ask, in whose interest are we to put down the rebellion? Hitherto, Admiral Hope has been acting in the interest of the Imperial Government. Now, I protest against our putting down the rebellion on behalf of the Imperial Government on two grounds. The first is, the ground of its cruelty. I have read harrowing accounts of the devastations of the rebels—how the country is blasted by their march. The accounts are, no doubt, true. But I have seen also the ways of the Imperial braves, and kept company with them for hours together. Their march over the country was like the progress of locusts and caterpillars. Their thirst for blood was quenchless; their outrages on the young and old were indescribable. On the score of cruelty the case must be about equal; inclining to the Imperialist side, if we may judge on the principle that the more cowardly are the more cruel."

With regard to Se-Chow, the great emporium of the silk districts, it appeared from official returns that the exports had increased annually since the Taipings first held it, on the 8th of May, 1860, up to the period when it was taken from them by treachery, and by the aid of Major Gordon and British guns. The annual exports of silk, which had exceeded up to this year 60,000 bales, then fell to 40,000 bales.

Mr. GREGGON understood that since the Order in Council had been withdrawn the policy of the British Government was now confined to defending the treaty ports and defending British life and property. The expedition of Captain Osborn had, as stated by the hon. member for Montrose, failed; but he regretted that that was the case, for its purpose was a noble one. The Chinese Government were very sincere in their application for that force, and promptly remitted the whole of the money to pay for the ships; but afterwards some interference took place on the part of the officers of the Chinese Government, and Captain Osborn would not submit to be placed under any Chinese authority. He must say that he regretted that the Chinese Government had not acted more consistently with their first intentions; for he believed that the valuable assistance which Captain Osborn's expedition might have afforded would have been of the greatest benefit to China. With regard to the silk districts, to which the hon. and gallant member had just alluded, it was his opinion that they had been destroyed by the Taipings.

Mr. KINNAIRD believed that Admiral Kuper had the utmost desire to act with perfect good faith towards the Taipings, but experience showed that those people would not keep faith themselves. He concurred in thinking that Captain Osborn's expedition would have been of great benefit to China in clearing the rivers of pirates; but, under the circumstances, Captain Osborn acted with great discretion in withdrawing his ships, though that step was a great loss to the Imperial Government in China.

TRIAL IN THE COURTS IN CHINA.

(23rd.) Colonel SYKES asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs under what rule, ordinance, or law British subjects in China are subject to trial in the Consular Courts for breaches of neutrality in the present civil war in China.—Mr. LAYARD could not give his hon. friend any information as to any trials for a breach of neutrality; but the jurisdiction exercised by the Consular agents was under certain orders in Council.

SIR F. BRUCE AND MR. BURLINGAME.

(26th.) Mr. J. B. SMITH asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether the communications made by the American Minister, Mr. Burlingame, at Peking, in a despatch to Mr. Seward, the Secretary of State at Washington, and dated the 20th of June, 1863, respecting the joint policy to be pursued in China by the Ministers of England, France, and America, was substantially in accord with a despatch addressed to Earl Russell, and a copy of which Sir Frederick Bruce gave to the American Minister, and whether a reply had been given to Sir Frederick Bruce's despatch, and in what sense.—Mr. LAYARD said Sir Frederick Bruce had not informed the Government that he had ever communicated to the American Minister such a despatch as that referred to by the hon. member; but there was a despatch among the papers in the Foreign-office which had the appearance of being the one spoken of by the hon. gentleman. The only objection to producing it in full was that it might not be consistent with our duty towards foreign Governments to publish the entire of the despatch; but if the hon. member allowed him to make extracts from the document he would produce those passages which he believed would satisfy the hon. gentleman's object. With regard to Sir Frederick Bruce, Her Majesty's Government had always felt the most complete confidence in him; and as there was no difference between the Government and Sir Frederick in respect to the principles laid down in the despatch to which reference was made in the latter portion of the question, it did not require an answer.

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ANOTHER DEBATE ON CHINA.

WITH persistent action, the philo-Taiping members of the House of Commons renewed the old topic of debate on British policy in China last Friday, which we had imagined received its *quietus* this session in the discussion before the recess. On this occasion the PREMIER undertook the defence of that policy himself; and with his usual inexhaustible fund of argument in reply to the mover of the question, convinced the House of its soundness. His home-thrust at that hon. member, as an interested but inconsistent advocate of our commercial relations in China, was keen and sharply aimed, showing that the vigour of political debate is still fresh within the "old man eloquent," party surmises to the contrary notwithstanding. We may thank Mr. BAXTER for again broaching the subject, as his questions elicited so many conclusive reasons in support of the Government action on this Taiping question. Lord PALMERSTON goes back to first principles, in elucidating the policy of intervention hitherto successfully pursued in the East, where our commerce required protection; and holds that such will rule our future relations with China, which has proved the opportune support of British foreign trade during the convulsions which have paralysed American traffic. As to rebellions in China, he alluded to the well-known fact that these have been the rule, and eras of peace the exception from time immemorial. And, he might have added, considering the vast territorial extent of that empire, with its multitudinous population, this is a matter not to be wondered at; inasmuch as, being greater than all Europe, a comparison of history will show that these regions of the West have been as rebellious as those of the Far East. Indeed, it would have been an apt illustration of the subject to show that with all our boasted institutions for the conservation of peace, Europe at the present time is suffering as much from a state of war as China is from rebellion; and the "greatest nation in all creation" is ten times worse. It is only by such comparisons that we can judge of a rebellion in one or two of the eighteen provinces of China, each of which is equal to a European State of the first or second order. It is with much satisfaction we remark that Lord PALMERSTON paid a well-deserved tribute to Major GORDON by designating him "a most able and distinguished officer," hoping that he is not wounded severely, as announced in the telegram from Suez. In this wish we cordially join, and trust that when the details reach us of his unexpected reverse at Kiu-tang, affairs will present a more favourable aspect than this brief message indicates.

THE ANGLO-AUSTRALIAN AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

For the past six years Mr. FRANCIS GIBBORNE has been engaged in the formation of a company to carry out a line of telegraphic communication between Singapore, China, Java, and Australia, to be connected with the Indian system at Rangoon, to which point the lines already extend, and on completion of the cable now being laid in the Persian Gulf, the last-named will be in communication with England. Mr. GIBBORNE has obtained a subsidy from the Dutch and Australian Governments, but owing to the unfortunate failure of the Red Sea cable our

Government declines to follow their example. No doubt such a subsidy would smooth the course very materially, but we fully believe sufficient support will be obtained from our merchants and underwriters to make the undertaking remunerative. The spirit of enterprise is at the present day so strong that we are confident the necessary capital will be forthcoming under the very able board of directors which Mr. GIBBORNE has succeeded in forming. The list comprises merchants and others practically acquainted with the trade, and of first class standing. The correspondence Mr. GIBBORNE has conducted on the subject with the British, Dutch, and Australian Governments has been published in the form of a blue-book by order of Parliament. According to a map that has been published, the lines proposed will be as follows:—

From Rangoon to Singapore a submarine cable of 1,200 miles will be laid in three sections, in a depth of forty fathoms. The first section will extend from Rangoon to King Island along the coast of Siam; the second from King Island to Penang in the Straits of Malacca; and the third on to Singapore. From Singapore to Hong Kong, say about 1,300, the first section of the cable will stretch from Singapore, across the head of the Gulf of Siam, to Saigon; from Saigon to the Island of Hainan, on the west coast of China, and from thence to Hong Kong. From Hong Kong it is proposed to lay another cable to Shanghai, in sections to Amoy, the north end of Formosa, and thence to Shanghai, the distance being about 1,000 miles. If these cables are successfully laid and worked, there will be no difficulty in continuing them on to Tien-tsin and also to Japan.

The Java and Australia part of the project will be as follows:—From Singapore the cable will be laid to the Island of Banca, thence to Batavia; from Batavia a land line is already laid right through Java to Cape Sedano; from the latter place the line will be laid to the north or south end of the Island of Timor—a place well known and much frequented by vessels to and from China during the adverse monsoons. From Timor the stretch will be to Port Essington; from there across the Gulf of Carpentaria to Port Denison in Queensland, which is already in telegraphic communication with Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide. The depth of water in which the cables are to be laid ranges from 20 to 80 fathoms. The entire distance of the proposed operations is about 6,000 nautical miles, and the estimated capital required about two and a quarter millions sterling.

THE JAPANESE AMBASSADORS IN FRANCE.

The Ambassadors are making the best use of their time, and are producing a decidedly good impression. It is evident that their Government has, upon the present occasion, either selected better men for the mission than it did previously, or has given them wiser instructions. The present Ambassadors are manifestly intent upon really studying the strange people in the midst of whom they are thrown, and also on leaving a pleasant impression of their own manners and habits of thought on the European mind. Not long since the Ambassadors visited Vincennes, that curious old building, like all its contemporaries, half-palace and half-prison, and where, by the way, died Harry of England, Falstaff's friend in youth and England's champion in after years. They inspected the old donjon tower, the arsenal, the *salle d'armes*, and the barracks; and their inquiries proved they were no mere loungers and sight-seers, but men intent on picking up information and storing it for future use.

Since this they have paid a visit to Cherbourg and other places. The Ambassadors were accompanied during their journey by a numerous suite, and also by M. Ballier, an attaché of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Paris; M. Blekman, Interpreting Secretary to the French Legation in Japan; M. Hervé de Lavaur, a medical man, also attached to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; M. Pagès, Professor of the Japanese language, and several French artists. They were received at the railway station by the Sub-Prefect, commandant and commander of the artillery of the place, a battalion of the 18th regiment of the line, with band playing, being drawn up in the court of the station. The troops presented arms, and the Ambassadors drove off to the *Hotel de l'Europe*, where apartments had been engaged for them, through a dense crowd of people. On the following morning the Prefect of the Department, General de Maud'hui and Rear-Admiral Roze, acting at present for the Maritime Prefect, made a complimentary State visit to the Ambassadors, which, of course, the latter immediately returned in due form. Soon after this the boats of the Imperial Marine

carried the Japanese to the maritime port, amid a salvo by the artillery of seventeen guns. At the port the Ambassadors were received by a battalion of marines, with music, and the chief officers were presented to them by Admiral Roze. The party was then escorted through the various portions of the port and arsenal, the sawing machine room, the artillery workshops and the graving docks, and exhibited great interest, especially in all that related to arms, asking innumerable questions respecting them. They then were taken on board the steel-plated vessels *Solferino* and *Couronne*, which again interested them exceedingly, and gave rise to many memoranda in their note-books, of which they make good use upon almost all occasions. They afterwards were taken to the breakwater and forts, where they had an admirable view of the iron-sided fleet lying at anchor within, and the day being magnificent the effect was admirable.

In the evening there was a grand dinner at the lodging of the Ambassadors, to which all the principal officers of the place were invited. In the evening the latter went to the theatre on foot; and on the following morning they departed for Havre in the *Talisman*, where pretty much the same routine was gone through, with due allowance for the special character of the two ports. From Havre they proceeded to Rouen, where they were shown over some of the mills and other establishments, and thence they returned to Paris.

On the 18th the Ambassadors were entertained at a grand dinner by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, when the Minister of Marine and of the Colonies, Baron Gros; M. Albrand, the Superior of Foreign Missions; M. Etienne, the Superior of the Layanistes; Comte Vitzthum and Triconpi; Ministers of Saxony and Greece in England; Admirals Charner, Jurien la Gravière, and Baron de la Roncière le Noury, many other officers of the army and navy, and all the heads of Departments in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, were present. In the evening M^{me}. Drouyn de Lhuys held a reception, at which the Japanese visitors remained till an unusually late hour. They have accepted an invitation from the Swiss Minister to visit that country, and also to enter commercial relations with the Government, and the proposal has been accepted.

The Japanese Ambassadors visited the Grand Opera on the evening of the 23rd inst., to witness the ballet of *Giselle*, when a kind of grand stand was erected for the party at the back of the pit, and in front of the balcony, placing them in the most conspicuous position imaginable. On the 25th the Ambassadors dined with the Emperor at the Tuileries.

EXTRAORDINARY IDENTITY OF THE JAPANESE INTERPRETER.

Several of the Paris journals relate the following story concerning the interpreter of the Japanese Embassy, now in Paris:—Frantz Bleckmann was a native of Holland, but being of a roving disposition, embarked on a vessel bound for Batavia to seek his fortune. Years passed by, and nothing being heard of him, his friends at last concluded that some accident must have befallen him, and that he was no longer living. His father remained in Holland, but being unsuccessful in business, he came to Paris. Here his resources soon failed him, and on writing to a friend to solicit a small loan he received the following letter in reply:—"I send you the money you ask for, and add to it the photographic portraits of the Japanese Embassy. You will remark the face of one of those strangers, for he is the very image of your son." The father could not but perceive the resemblance; the features were certainly the same, but the closely-shaven head and the Oriental costume greatly puzzled him. He, however, went to the courtyard of the hotel in which the Embassy was staying and was so fortunate as to arrive just as the Japanese were passing to go out. The original of the portrait he at once recognised, and called out: "Is that you, Frantz?" In a moment the son—for Frantz it really was—and the old man were locked in each other's arms. The Ambassadors who witnessed the scene were greatly moved, and old Bleckmann's troubles were now at an end, as the son is wealthy and prosperous.

A VOYAGE ROUND JAPAN.

A very interesting volume has lately made its appearance in Paris, published by the Messrs. Hachette, under the title of *Un Voyage Autour du Japon*. M. RODOLPHE LINDAU, the author, was some time ago introduced to the notice of our readers by one of our correspondents. Prepossessed in favour of the book by his recommendation, we have found, on looking into it, that the papers which appeared in the *Revue des Deux Mondes* certainly well deserved the distinction of a separate publication. The author's residence in Japan occupied portions of 1859, 1861, and 1862, and extended altogether to a space of two years. His sojourn, too, was not confined to one city, for he furnishes us with descriptions of Nagasaki, Hakodadi, Yedo, and Kanagawa, and of other places not so well known to us, based on his own actual residence and observation. He, besides, paid a visit to the Russian establishments

on the Asiatic coast, his account of which is one of the most important chapters of the book. The general character of the work bears the impress of the mode in which its contents were originally published, partaking of that sketchy, easy-reading style that forms the charm of periodical literature. M. Lindau, moreover, is disposed, after the manner of his countrymen, always to look at matters on the bright side. He has a good word for everybody and every place. With the Japanese themselves he is ever on excellent terms; and the vices he recognises in them he is inclined to attribute to their new-born intimacy with Europeans; for he says, "You may admit it as a general rule, that the natives degenerate morally as soon as they enter into connection with us. To what causes are we to attribute this phenomenon, by no means flattering to our self-esteem? This is not the place for inquiring into it; but I assert that in Japan, as in China, the good and amiable native society has disappeared wherever the influence of Europeans prevails. The coolies of Decima are incorrigible thieves; the traders of Yokohama grow daily more insolent; and the Japanese women who are obliged to submit to the companionship of foreigners very soon lose the modesty that constituted their principal charm."

With the opportunities that our author enjoyed we are rather disposed to express surprise that he has added so little to our knowledge of the customs and laws of the Island Empire; but the difficulties of the language seem not to have been as yet overcome by any but the professional interpreters. To show the nature and amount of the impediments to a free interchange of thought and expression between the European and the Japanese, we will just throw together passages from various parts of the book that enable us to estimate the insurmountability of the barrier they interpose:—

Japanese, the profound study of which is for the learned man strewed with difficulties, presents to the traveller a mass of easy phrases which enables him in a short time to talk on common matters. The sound of Japanese reminds one of Italian. Vowels are abundant, and serve by their harmonious assistance to sustain an accent always placed with precision. The pronunciation is flowing, and a man of very ordinary memory may in a few weeks learn words enough to communicate with the natives without the aid of an interpreter. All foreigners who have resided in Japan for some time make use of the language of the country, and a few speak it readily. As regards the language of the men of letters and of political relations, to be able to write or handle it correctly demands a devotedness to dry philological studies which hitherto, even in the very country, missionaries alone have had the courage to undertake. . . . I endeavoured to explain the object of my visit, and I had some difficulty in making myself understood; but I had still much more to gather the meaning of the reply given. My hosts had never exchanged a word with a European, and the language that I passed off at Yokohama for Japanese seemed not to be naturalised throughout the Empire. In general, the Japanese spoken by most foreigners differs essentially from the pure and choice diction of the natives. So also I often remarked that to converse with traders from the interior the Yokohama dealers made use of their servants as interpreters. However, the difficulty we had in exchanging a few phrases threw no coolness on the kind welcome given me, and which Europeans always find in Japan when there is no particular motive for avoiding or fearing them.

Of the designs of the Russians on the islands and coasts of the Japanese seas, M. Lindau hints the gravest suspicions. The following extracts are of special value:—

POLICY OF RUSSIA IN JAPAN.

On the west of the bay, in front of Nagasaki, is situated the Russian establishment, near the native village of Inassa. The Russians are in the habit of isolating themselves from other foreigners in Japan. While the French, English, American, and Dutch functionaries and commercial men live without exception on the eastern shore of the bay at the gates of Nagasaki and in the centre of business, the Russians have withdrawn to Inassa, a little village peopled by monks, fishermen, and husbandmen. It is evident that the interests they are prosecuting in the Far East are altogether different from those of the English and French. Trade is not what occupies them: they have no representative at Yokohama, where most business is done, and not a single Russian merchant has, up to this time, established himself in Japan. At Hakodadi alone, a very busy city, but without foreign outlets, and for that reason neglected by the English and Americans—at Hakodadi, facing the ports of Mantchouria, is constantly stationed a small fleet of Russian steamers. People are much astonished to find the same nation represented there by a Consul-General, with a surgeon and a priest installed as fixtures. A hospital has been founded, a shipwright's yard constructed, and a number of measure-staken from which may be deduced an inevitable intention to create there a durable establishment. The Russian Government has the propensity of certain rich proprietors: it neglects nothing to get its domains within a ring fence. The Island of Jesso, whose chief city is Hakodadi, would thoroughly complete its latest acquisitions in the Far East, and there is no doubt it will, at a period close at hand, seize on the first pretext for becoming its master.

RUSSIAN POSSESSIONS IN MANTCHOURIA.

Besides Vladivostok and Olga Bay, the Russians possess, on the coasts of Mantchouria and on the western coast of the large Island of Saghalien, Passiat Bay, Koussounai, Emperor Bay, Doui, Castries Bay, and Nicolaiefski. At Passiat Bay, in 42 deg. N., coal has been found. Koussounai and Doui, in the Island of Saghalien, offering no shelter for

vessels, military posts have been established there—at Koussounai (48 deg. N.) to watch the Japanese frontier; at Doui (51 deg.) on account of the coal mines discovered there. The colony of Emperor Bay possesses an excellent anchorage, but is destitute of communication with the interior, and a weak detachment of soldiers suffices for its guard. Castries Bay (52 deg.) is, next to Vladivostok, the most considerable port the Russians have in these quarters. It is connected by an easy route with Lake Kisk, from whence vessels of light draught can reach the River Amoor. The Russians established themselves at Castries in 1854; at Doui in 1856; at Koussounai in 1857; at Olga in 1858; and lastly at Passiat and Vladivostok in 1860. The necessity of all these establishments is not yet fully evident, for Nicolaïefski itself, on the Amoor, the only Russian large town in this part of the world, is far from having acquired much commercial importance. The foundation of these distant colonies will be without a motive until the projects of the Government of the Czars on China and Japan have assumed a degree of consistence. The natural riches of Mantchouria are but imperfectly known, and their development would be attended with immense difficulty. I have already mentioned the coal-pits of Passiat Bay and Doui; I may add that marble has been discovered at Olga Bay, and auriferous ore at Vladivostok. Wood for building abounds in the interior of Mantchouria, and, if set on foot, the fur-trade would yield satisfactory results. The grand obstacle to the civilization of these vast countries—an obstacle that will long remain insurmountable—is the want of population. To the north are met a few wandering tribes—the Guilaks, Tungusoes, and Orotches—mixed, about Olga Bay, with some Chinese. South of Olga, and on the coast, Manass alone are to be found. Maximovitch, the botanist, estimates that the whole native population of the coast of Mantchouria, from 42 deg. to 52 deg. north, does not exceed a thousand souls.

Three chapters are devoted to the later history of Japan, in which the course of events is traced with great clearness and point. The feeling of the Daimios towards the Tycoon and the relative position of parties are put in a very unmistakable light in a quotation from a pamphlet distributed some time back by the section opposed to the latter. The reader will see in it a complete corroboration of the views constantly urged in this journal, and also a remarkable justification of the Prince of Satsuna's desire to possess himself of a war-steamer, as indicated to Colonel Neale by his envoys:—

For centuries the Tycoons, forgetting the origin of their power, have undermined the dignity and power of the Mikado their master, and the conduct of the present Tycoon proves that either equity nor good faith is to be expected from him. Things are come to that pass that foreign Powers look on the Tycoon as master of Japan, and treat the legitimate Emperor as a being without power and without influence. It was to the Tycoon the barbarians addressed themselves when they wanted to conclude treaties with Japan. The Mikado was not even consulted, and his approval, which is indispensable to the introduction of reforms into the constitution, was not solicited. Yet these treaties are in force as if they had a legal value. The Tycoon, therefore, has committed an act of treason against the majesty of his master and the sacredness of the constitution, in virtue of which he is placed at the head of the executive power. It cannot be denied that the Court of the Tycoon is endeavouring to concentrate all the power of Japan at Yedo. There are the arms and the foreign ships; there spring up schools, in which are taught the arts and sciences of the West. The trade with the barbarians has no place but in the dominions of the Tycoon; the great Daimios have no right to open their ports to it; it enriches the subjects of the Tycoon alone, and the latter derives considerable emoluments from it himself. The purpose aimed at by the Government of Yedo is easy to be seen; it is arming and preparing to subjugate all who would like some day to get from under its sway. In the time of Hieas, the eighteen great Daimios united might have offered a formidable resistance; but the armies of those Princes were inferior to those of Hieas but in one respect, that of numbers. Now-a-days, the chances are no longer so equal. The Tycoon's steamers, the firearms he has purchased or had manufactured after foreign patterns, his acquaintance with an entirely new art of warfare, give him a dangerous superiority over the other Japanese Princes. To avoid being attacked in detail, the latter ought to assemble, as soon as possible, and by allying themselves, defeat the tortuous policy of the Tycoon. The Mikado is ready to give the support of his name to the good cause; but for him to do so, it is necessary that an official request should be presented to him. There is no doubt that he would receive it favourably, and would re-establish the union of the old nobility with the legitimate Emperor. From that union, which he has always ardently desired, will spring a return to the ancient and venerable state of things.

In face of the combination against him the Tycoon was obliged to make great concessions, and eventually to promise to pay a visit to the Mikado within a year. This interview, which, according to our latest advices, has but just taken place, would exercise, thinks M. Lindau, a great influence on Japanese affairs, though it would not remove every difficulty. He concludes his historical retrospect in the following terms, which afford an excellent specimen of the author's more serious style:—

The Tycoons are in fact too potent voluntarily to abdicate a power exercised by himself and his ancestors for more than two centuries. The Mikado, on his side, will not, without an obstinate struggle, let slip the opportunity offered to him for regaining the power of which his family has been dispossessed since the days of Taikosama. One fact, however, remains certain—which is, that the existing difficulties of Japan will turn to the advantage of Europe. Whosoever shall be the master the eventualities of the struggle may give to Japan, he must resolutely put himself at the head of the party that is willing to ensure the progress of the empire by a new policy. The foreign element that has penetrated Japan can never again be expelled from it. Whether it like or not, the Japanese

Government must remain in relation with the Westerns, and from those relations a better situation must inevitably arise. What the love of conquest did in the primitive times of human society—what love for the Faith did in the Middle Ages, commerce is doing in the present day. The principal civilising agent of modern times, it proceeds in a different manner to what national pride and religious belief did in former epochs; but it tends to the same goal. If the devouring activity of our merchants does not excite the same sympathies as the heroism of warriors and the devotion of apostles, those men none the less serve the cause of Western civilisation with an intelligent and fruitful ardour. They go to spread afar off that light of which their country is the fountain. They carry the influence of European energy unto the most distant and most barbarous countries. And the best guarantee of vitality put forward at this moment by Japanese society is found in the presence amidst it of European men of business—in the growing part that society itself is capable of assuming in the ideas and tentatives given birth to as a consequence of the commercial relations between Japan and the West.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON AND CHINA.

On the 17th inst. the sixth ordinary general meeting of the shareholders was held at the offices in Threadneedle-street; Mr. G. G. Nicol in the chair. The report and statement of accounts, which will be found elsewhere, were taken as read.

The CHAIRMAN hoped the report submitted would be as satisfactory to the shareholders as it was to the directors. The profits of the year had amounted to within a fraction of 40 per cent. The current and fixed deposits and the issues, which were the tests of public confidence and of prosperity, amounted to £8,600,000, and that in the face of a considerable drain on banking deposits. Of the last year's profits they had already divided at the rate of 15 per cent., and added £50,000 to the reserve fund, leaving a balance carried forward of £75,831. The system adopted of paying dividend and bonus in anticipation made it necessary to retain always in hand a sum sufficient to pay the next half-year's dividend and bonus, for which purpose the sum now carried forward would be available on the 1st July, at a rate which he had no doubt would satisfy the proprietors. They had increased the capital by £250,000, and had added £100,000 to the reserve, making the total capital £750,000, and the reserve £250,000. This might appear large for a reserve, but when they considered the great extent of their liabilities and the great importance of confirming the confidence of the public in the bank, he thought they would agree that the policy of the board, in increasing the reserve to an amount which would enable them to meet any emergency was sound. (Hear, hear.)

He had every reason to believe that the present year would be quite as successful in its results as the last; at the same time he wished to guard the shareholders against over sanguine expectations. The commerce of India was still in a transition state, arising principally from the uncertainty in which for some time to come the cotton trade was likely to be involved. It was possible, therefore, that their profits might be temporarily reduced; but the resources of India were so inexhaustible, and were being so stimulated, that he had no doubt of the general prosperity of trade in that country, and of the banking business as a natural consequence. It was only just to say that they were very largely indebted for their present favourable position to the zeal, intelligence, and energy of the officers of the bank, and to mark their sense of the exertions of the various officers, the directors had awarded a bonus equal to 15 per cent. in the case of the manager, and 10 per cent. in the case of all the other officers, on their respective salaries. (Hear, hear.) This amounted to about £6,000. No doubt this was a large sum, but he felt sure that the shareholders would consider it a wise policy.

They had also purchased freehold premises at the several points mentioned in the report; and although as a rule the directors were averse to locking up their monies in dead stock of that kind, the position of matters in India made it imperative that their establishments there should be placed on a permanent footing, otherwise, as land was rapidly rising in value, they might experience great inconvenience and expense in finding themselves suddenly displaced. He was happy to say that the purchases they had made in this way were already worth a considerable profit on the outlay as it stood in the books. He had also to inform them that the directors, finding that the business of the bank was increasing beyond the capabilities of their present offices, had purchased property in Broad-street, where they would have premises equal to three times the business which could be accommodated at the Threadneedle-street establishment, and he was happy to add that the purchase had been so well made that if they were now disposed to resell, they could realise a very considerable profit on the transaction. As would be seen from the report, branches had been opened in various places since the last meeting, and the board was always reluctant to extend branches, but in a bank like this it was absolutely necessary to follow the trade where it was. These were all sub-agencies, that at Point de Galle and Newera Ellia being in connection with the Columbia branch, and the others with the Shanghai branch. In conclusion he moved the adoption of the report, which was seconded by Mr. D. Larnach.

Captain HALL held that the new shares had no right to participate in the profits earned by the old capital.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the new shareholders were part and parcel of the general body. No distinction could be drawn.

Captain HALL repeated his objection, observing that the new capital had not come into operation until December 31. He could not understand what was the object of keeping so large a reserve. Was it that their operations were attended with more than ordinary risk? He thought £200,000 would have been an ample reserve, in which case they would have had £50,000 more to divide among the shareholders. Other banks, whose profits were only half as much as theirs, paid 18 or 19 per cent. to the shareholders, while they only divided 15 per cent. out of 40 per cent. profits earned. He suggested that instead of carrying over £75,800 they should have a bonus of £3 a share, which would enable them still to carry over a balance of £15,800.

The CHAIRMAN said that, so far from there being any unusual risk in

the operations of the bank, it was quite the contrary. All their transactions were of the safest character, and carried on with the greatest prudence. The object of keeping up so large a reserve was to secure the confidence of the public, and that it had the effect was shown by the increased value of the shares since they had announced their intention of augmenting their reserve. He might mention that it was the intention of the board to pay a dividend on the 1st of July at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum, which would absorb the balance carried over.

Captain HALL complained that the money was kept in hand until July, and contended that the profits made ought to be divided in the current half year.

Mr. D. LARNOCH, a director, remarked that if they were to wait until the accounts of the current half year came in the dividend would not be paid until probably October next. As to the dividend, he thought 20 per cent. was a very good one, considering the time they had been in existence, and he thought too that the price at which the shares stood in the market, viz., £72 on £25 paid, was equally satisfactory.

The CHAIRMAN added that it was thought well to keep in hand a sum which would enable them to maintain something like an equal dividend, and this he hoped they would be able to keep at 20 per cent.

In reply to further questions,

The CHAIRMAN explained that it was thought advisable, looking at the aspect of the times, to keep a large proportion of the revenue invested in securities immediately convertible, and which did not therefore pay so high a rate of interest as it would yield if the money was used in the ordinary operations of the bank. The directors considered the reserve had now reached its maximum, and it was proposed in future to capitalise profits over twenty per cent. for the benefit of the shareholders.

Mr. D. LARNOCH added that the course would probably be to capitalise the extra profits and convert them into new shares to be given to the shareholders. The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

The directors retiring by rotation were re-elected.

Colonel JAMESON urged that directors of this bank ought not to hold office in other banks, and suggested that it was possible information might through their means be given to competing establishments to the injury of this.

The CHAIRMAN did not see that there was any objection to the directors being directors of other banks, provided they were not competing banks. He thought no charge could be made against them of neglecting the interests of the shareholders. (Hear, hear.)

The auditors were then re-elected, and £100 awarded to them for their services. A vote of thanks to the directors and managers concluded the proceedings.

ANOTHER CHINA DEBATE.

(THE TIMES.)

Lord Palmerston is one of the very few men in this country who understand the importance of China to England. Perhaps he is the only man in the House of Commons, and he certainly is the only man in the Cabinet, who is able, from a thorough knowledge of all that has gone before, to see his way clearly in his present conduct, and make his decisions with confidence as to his future policy. A China debate has become dreary and unattractive, but it is at the same time a very important matter, for it takes in, as Lord Palmerston said on Friday night, no less a question than that of our commercial relations with one-third of the human race.

We are committed to trading relations with the extreme East, which are to compensate, and which do in a great measure compensate, the falling-off of our commercial relations with the West. The opening up of China is undoubtedly one of the most obvious causes of that wonderful, and to many inexplicable, prosperity which, amid the dangers of Europe and the convulsions of America, seems to settle in lieu of other sunshine upon these islands. We must, however, accept the new advantage with its conditions. The Chinese never have been and never will be a peaceful and well-governed people. The insurrection of the Taipings is not an acute disease; it is the symptom of an ineradicable constitutional infirmity. China always has been a country of frequent revolutions, secret societies, and powerful robbers. In all ages and in all times China has been traversed by banditti and coasted by pirates. The history of China is full of nothing else but pirates and banditti, and it is because there has never been any security that China is the oldest society in the world with scarcely any really ancient remains. The oldest thing in China is supposed to be a vase, which hands down the tradition of the turbulent insecurity of still earlier times. Its inscription is an aspiration for "ten thousand years' rest from violence and troubles." China was never without her Taipings ashore and afloat. The Ming dynasty was founded by a lay brother of a Buddhist monastery, who got together a multitude of bandits. When the Tartars came down the last of the Mings had just hanged himself, because there was a robber chief in possession of Peking and eight rebel armies in different provinces of China, each plundering upon its individual account. The patriot defenders of their country against these same Tartars were pirates, now celebrated by Chinese historians, and robber chiefs who when they left a city massacred all the inhabitants, and the greatest of whom made it his chief merit that he had cut the throats of three hundred women. As it was then so it is now, and so it will continue to be while the same causes continue. China is a densely populated country, especially exposed to inundations and failures of crops. There are, therefore, always millions of hungry and destitute men, a feeble and corrupt Government, an inefficient police, and no poor-laws. It is a condition of such a society that men must either rob or starve, and therefore they rob, and they gather together to rob. But there is no fibre in their cohesion. They gather like the avalanche, and they rush onwards with all its desolating force and rapidity; but when they have reached the valley they dissolve in the sunshine, and leave nothing but a mass of rubbish behind.

The difference between the Chinese rebels of to-day and the piratical bodies who drove the Dutch out of Formosa, or the bandit who got possession of Peking, or the Chinese Jack Cade who appointed an examination for literary honours, and when he had thus assembled several thousand candidates murdered them all on the spot under the pretext that by sophistry they would excite disturbances throughout the empire, or the

monster who murdered all the women, is simply that the Taipings of the nineteenth century have come in contact with a trading nation, and are making themselves exceedingly inconvenient to the received course of respectable business. The brigands of former days swarmed and crunched and died like successive flights of locusts in the same lands, without acquiring much fame. No doubt they had their virtues in the eyes of some persons. The Portuguese obtained Macao as the price of protection against some of them; and Hangchow, Nanking, and Soochow became more wealthy as places of security. So, in the present day, Shanghai as a city of refuge is growing so important that a bit of land there is about as valuable as a site in Cheapside. Mr. Liddell, by a whimsical error, has sought to gain credit also to the Taipings for our recent supplies of silk, the fact being that these robbers, by their presence in the silk districts, have frightened away all the holders of the old boards of "box silk," and have thus cast it all upon the market. The wind that blows nobody good has yet to blow, and the Taipings must necessarily produce some irregular advantage to some one. We can even recognise in the existence of some counterpoise to the absolute rule of the Peking Government a wholesome corrective to the "anti-barbarian" policy even now only kept in check by fear of the spread of Taipings to the Northern provinces, and by regard for the proceeds of the Shanghai customs. Their influence, however, upon our Western interests is in the general point of view evil, and their presence in the silk districts is an unmitigated misfortune to us. What we hope from the Sherard Osborn Expedition was not that the piracy and brigandage would for ever cease in China—for that is impossible—but that they would be driven away from those parts of the country where we trade and whence we draw our supplies. But for the unfortunate failure of that enterprise, this expectation would have been fulfilled. The Taiping Chiefs were prepared to abandon Nanking, and the whole "ragamuffin" crew would have moved off to more distant fields of operation. Now, not only is the rebellion raising its head again—a fact we need not care much about—but it is occupying the part of the country from which it is our interest that it should be driven. The encouragement of the Osborn expedition was in this point of view a wise and statesmanlike measure, and its failure was a great misfortune.

It is satisfactory, however, that, whatever may be the difference of opinion as to the past, every one agrees as to what the future conduct of England should be in China. The House of Commons was unanimous on Friday—perhaps Colonel Sykes may have protested, but if so we will take his protest as proof of the general unanimity—that the Treaty ports must be protected. The defence of a port of course involves the defence of its immediate circuit, and thus we are all resolved as to the propriety of defending the towns with which we trade. Henceforward we shall attempt no more, either by direct or by indirect interference. The silk districts and the tea districts must take care of themselves. After the practical refusal of the Peking Government to avail itself of the aid we offered it, this is, no doubt, our wisest course. But out of these circumstances important consequences must follow. The protected ports and the producing districts will soon find their interests in being indissolubly connected, and the result will probably be to effect some regularity and consistency in the Government of the Taipings, or to infuse some energy into the councils of the Imperialists, but in either case to obtain for the producing districts some practical protection from their mercantile ports.

Naval and Military.

VESSELS OF WAR ON THE CHINA STATION.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* gives the following in its usual monthly list as the names of vessels of the Royal Navy now on the China station:—

Algerine, 3. sc. gunboat, Lieut.-Com. A. R. Blane.
 Argus, 6. st., Com. J. Mori-by.
 Barrosa, 21. sc., Capt. W. M. Dowell.
 Bustard, 2. sc., gunboat, Mast. Com. J. C. Tucker.
 Centaur, 6. pd. st., Com. J. T. Cresay (ord. home).
 Clown, 1. sc. gunboat, Lieut. Com. J. S. Tonkin.
 Conqueror, 78. sc., Capt. W. G. Luard.
 Coquette, 4. sc. gunboat, Com. A. G. Roe.
 Cormorant, 4. sc., Com. G. M. Buckle.
 Coromandel, 4. sc., Lieut. D. G. Davidson.
 Encounter, 14. sc., Capt. R. Dew (ord. home).
 Euryalus, 35. sc., Capt. J. H. Alexander, flagship of Vice-Admiral Kuper, K.C.B.
 Flamer, 1. sc., Lieut. Com. T. S. Gooch.
 Grasshopper, 2. sc. Lieut. Com. J. C. Tucker.
 Hardy, 2. sc., Lieut. Com. T. G. Bogle.
 Haughty, 2. sc., gunboat.
 Hesper, 4. sc., Mast. Com. A. F. Boxer.
 Hornet, 17. sc., Com. Hon. R. Hare (ord. home).
 Insolent, 2. sc., Lieut.-Com. G. Parsons.
 Janus, 1. sc., Lieut.-Com. Richard Adams.
 Keetrel, 1. sc., Lieut.-Com. Hamilton Dunlop.
 Leopard, 18. st., Capt. C. T. Lecky.
 Leven, 1. sc., Lieut.-Com. H. P. Knevit.
 Manilla, sc., 70 h.p., Mast. Com. H. W. Burnett.
 Osprey, 4. sc., Com. A. J. Innes.
 Pantaloon, 11. sc., Com. F. R. Purvis.
 Pearl, 21. sc., Capt. J. Belase, C.B. (ord. home).
 Pelorus, 21. sc., Capt. Henry Boys.
 Perseus, 17. sc., Com. A. J. Kingston.
 Racehorse, 4. sc., Com. C. R. F. Boxer.
 Rattler, 17. sc., Com. J. W. Webb.
 Rifleman, 5. sc., sloop, Com. John Ward.
 Ringdove, 4. sc., Com. R. A. O. Brown (ord. home).
 Saracen, 4. brig, tender to Rifleman.
 Scylla, 21. sc., Capt. R. W. Courtenay.
 Severn, 51. sc. frigate, Com. F. B. Montross.
 Slaney, 1. sc., Lieut. Com. W. R. Lea.
 Steamship, 2. sc., Com. G. M. Temple.

Swallow, 9, sc. sloop, Mast. Com. E. Wilda.
Tartar, 20, sc., Capt. J. M. Hayes.
Vigilant, 4, sc., Com. N. R. Hobson.
Vulcan, 6, sc. tr.-ship, Capt. A. C. Strode (ord. home).
Wasp, 13, sc., Capt. W. Bowden.

DEATH OF ADMIRAL HERCULES ROBINSON.—We have to record the death of the above gallant and distinguished admiral, who expired at Southsea on the 15th inst. The deceased, who had attained the advanced age of 75 years, entered the Navy in June, 1800, on board the *Penelope*, 36, and in the *Euryalus*, 36, fought at the battle of Trafalgar, October 21, 1805. He was confirmed a lieutenant April 25, 1807, in the *Glory*, 28, off Cadix, and August 30, 1809, was promoted to the command of the *Prometheus*, 18, and captured three privateers and drove on shore and burnt a fourth in the face of a body of troops. He was advanced to post rank, June 7, 1814, and from September, 1817, to December, 1820, commanded the *Favourite*, 26, at St. Helena, in the Rio de la Plata, and Newfoundland. He accepted the retirement October 1, 1846; became rear-admiral, October 9, 1849; vice-admiral, October 21, 1856; and admiral, January 15, 1862.

DEATH OF SIR A. MURRAY TULLOCH, K.C.B.—We have also to record the death of Sir Alexander Murray Tulloch, K.C.B., who died on the 16th inst., after a short illness. The news of his death at the War Department occasioned much regret among those persons with whom he was associated in official matters. The late Sir Alexander Tulloch was educated at Edinburgh, and afterwards went to the Military College at Sandhurst, where he obtained the highest honours in the senior department of that military seminary. He entered the army as ensign in the 45th regiment in 1826. The late general occupied several important administrative offices in the War Department. For some time he was in charge of the statistical branch of the War Office, and was latterly Assistant Military Superintendent of Pensioners. He obtained the honour of a Knight Commander of the Bath for his civil services as Commissioner, in conjunction with Sir John McNeill, G.C.B., in the inquiry sent out to the Crimea by the Government in 1855, on the management of the British army during the campaign in the East. The care and diligence in drawing up the joint report is generally considered due to the discretion of Sir Alex. Tulloch; and, as was afterwards declared in Parliament, "he was a faithful exposé of the errors which then brought our military organisation into disrepute."

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, May 22.

On the proposition of the Minister for the Colonies, H.M. the King has just authorised Mr. A. W. Kinder de Camarecq, principal officer of the East India Civil Service, lately Resident of Bagelen, in Java, now in this country on leave of absence, to proceed to Vienna and Paris to attend the practical trials about to be made with respect to the discovery of Mr. Daniel Hooibrenk for an artificial fructification of fruit trees and corn. The special object of this gentleman's mission is to ascertain the best method of introducing this important discovery into Netherlands India, where, as we learn by late advices from that country, great expectations are formed of the benefits to be derived from this new system. According to despatches from the Governor-General of Netherlands India, the first attempt will be made in the rice-fields belonging to the domain of Tjipanas, in the Treanger Regencies, and if they succeed, to be extended to the coffee and spice trees.

The "Indian Club" of this city, as a proof of its sympathy towards the Colonial Military Asylum at Bronbeck, has just sent to the commandant the munificent sum of 700 fl. for purchase of an organ for that establishment, which has also of late received some very valuable presents of works on various subjects from different booksellers, amongst whom may be mentioned the houses of Jautzen, of Amsterdam; Quentin, of Arnhem; and Breijer and G. J. Thieme, both of the same place.

The following twenty-two first-class vessels have been chartered by the Netherlands Trading Company to land produce in Java to the under-mentioned ports:—*Jacob Roggeveen*, Capt. Van Marken; *Jan Hendrik*, Capt. Lelyfeldt; *De Zwaan*, Capt. Doecken; *A. R. Falck*, Capt. Van der Plas; *Senior*, Capt. Bakker; *Wildemann*, Capt. Driest; *Helena* and *Anna*, Capt. Van Aalborg; *Vier Gezusters*, Capt. Otto; *Nieuw Holland*, Capt. Witting; *Helena*, Capt. Dill; *Kinderdijk*, Capt. Zwanenburg; *Telenak*, Capt. Popken; all for Amsterdam. *Europa*, Capt. Lupcke, jun.; *Silentium*, Capt. Schagen van Leeuwen; *Johanna*, Capt. Verdun; *Vier Gebroeders*, Capt. Bunk; *Kaap Hoorn*, Capt. Dik; *Rudolf*, Capt. Meinsma; *Minister Thorbecke*, Capt. Kannegieter; *Columbine*, Capt. Kock, for Rotterdam; *Stad Middelburg*, Capt. Ouwehand, for Middelburg; and *Jacoba Helena*, Capt. Swart, for Schiedam.

H.N.M. steam transport *Helain*, 10 guns, under the command of Capt.-Lieutenant P. W. Stort, after having had her crew mustered by the Naval Commander-in-Chief at Nieuwe Diep, hauled out into the outer roads, where she took in her gunpowder, and having exchanged the usual salutes with the batteries, sailed from the Texel on the 15th inst. for the East India station.

The flourishing little manufacturing town of Almelo appears to drive a large trade with Netherlands India; for, according to the returns just published, they exported to that country during the last year 201,202 pieces of cotton manufactures, 341 piculs of muletwist, 42,500 jute coffee bags, and 22,040 kilogr. of pork and beef.

The *Soompost* asserts that the directors of the new Canal Company for cutting through the strip of land between this city and the sea, have received an offer from the house of Messrs. York and Co. to execute the works and keep them in order for two years after completion, for the sum of 23,750,000 florins.

H.M. the King has been pleased to appoint the following gentlemen to be members of the Order of the Netherlands Lion:—Baron Stoet van de Beele, Governor-General of Netherlands India, and Mr. A. Prins, Vice-President of the Council of Netherlands India, to be Knights-Commander; Mr. E. Netscher, Resident of Riouw; Mr. J. E. Teysmann, Director of the Government Botanical Garden at Buitenzorg, Mr. W. Cores de Vries, a manufacturer of Sourabaya, and Mr. P. W. Hofland, landed proprietor of Krawang, to be Knights.

The Second Chamber of the States-General, after passing nineteen Bills (all of a local nature), have adjourned, there being still left thirteen that will be brought on in the ensuing Session. The First Chamber is convened for Thursday, the 2nd June.

At a public sale of shares, &c., held here, Java Bank shares realised 174½ per cent., and shares in the Netherlands Sugar Refinery 188 per cent.

The Netherlands Trading Company, by order and for account of the Colonial Department, invites tenders for 15,480 kilogr. of fine wheat flour, and 19,800 litres of wine vinegar, to be delivered into the Colonial magazine in this city for shipment to Java. Tenders received till the end of this month.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The Company's sale of 86,164 bags of Java, held this time at Rotterdam, went off very easily, all being sold, though generally a trifle lower than last sale. Good ordinary realised 43 to 43½ cents, and on the average all went 1 to 1½ cents lower. The sale was immediately succeeded by another containing about 5,000 bags of private trade Macassar, of which a few lots were bought in, and the rest sold at from 33½ to 44½ cents, according to quality.

SUGAR.—Raw has had a fair amount of business, chiefly for shipment at ½ to ½ fl. below Company's March sale prices. Refined market still in an unsatisfactory state, with little or no demand, and drooping prices.

SPICES.—Pepper has been more in request, but without leading to an improvement in value. Nutmegs continue in favour, and still realise the advance mentioned in last report. Cloves are again in favour, and have been an object of considerable speculation, 28½ cents having been paid for parcels of the crop of 1863.

RICE.—The market has been very active since last mail, and prices well supported. Among the sales reported were 870 bags of Java, ex *Johanna Christina*, at 9½ fl.; 2,132 bags Java ex *Vrede*; 2,200 bags do. ex *Nova Zembla* and *Johanna Christina*, at 9 to 10 fl.; and 1,750 bags of Java table rice ex *Henriette*, at 16 fl.; and at Rotterdam, 14,000 bags Java, ex *Rudolf*, at 16 fl.

HIDES.—Large parcels have been sold, including the following:—7,000 Java ox, by public sale, at 37 to 61 cents for the sound; and 34½ for the damaged; 780 buffalo, ex *Merchantman*; 2,427 ex *Johanna*; 560 ex *Cornwallis*; 878 ex *County of Lanark*; 165 ex *Mary* and *Hillegonde*; 859 and 515 ex do.; 494 and 60 ex *Macassar*; 500 buffalo ex *Elizabeth*; 944 ex *Jeddo*; 360 ex *Catharina*; 293 ex *Marinus*; and 465 ex *Henriette*. Full prices were in all cases realised.

METALS.—No sales are reported of copper. Banca tin continues to decline, and may now be bought at 66 fl. Billiton was more in demand, but could only realise 65½ fl.

INDIGO still attracts purchasers at firm prices.

RATTANS were more in favour again, and the sales included 8,165 bundles (504 piculs), ex *Insulanarin*; 844 bundles (80 piculs), ex *Maria Adolfsa*; and 561 bundles (100 piculs), ex *Scharnhorst*.

JAVA TOBACCO.—Market inactive, the only sales reported being 189 bales, mark W/Malang, ex *County of Lanark*, sold by tender; and by private contract 414 bales Kawi, 752 bales mark D. At the end of this month the Company have advertised some large sales of tobacco, among which are 22 bales from Japan, and 1,427 bales of Java, of the following marks:—K.M., B.K., K.L., P.O.M., D.M., W.G.J., and H.B.V.H. 131 bales of Java, mark *Josa Klakha*, have come to hand per *Bilderdyk*. Stock in this country 4,720 bales of Java and 22 of Japan.

Literature.

Stanford's Map of the Empires of China and Japan, with the Adjacent Parts of British India, Asiatic Russia, Burmah, &c. E. Stanford, 6, Charing-cross, London.—Maps of China have been hitherto almost invariably confined to the Eastern portion of that great empire, omitting even parts of the provinces which constitute China Proper. This mattered little when European intercourse with the Chinese was limited to the sea-board and to Kiachta on the Russian frontier. But our interest in the magnificent provinces of Western China has immensely increased of late years, and while Russia is extending her territory and establishing communication with the interior of China along the whole of her frontier, extending between the Pacific Ocean and the new settlements on the Kirghis Steppe, Englishmen may also hope to enjoy the fruits of commercial intercourse with the rich and populous provinces of Yunnan, Shensi, and Szechuen. The new map now before us, issued by

Mr. Stanford, brings all these provinces before the eye, the undeveloped wealth of which offers a new field to commercial enterprise. It includes also, as the title intimates, the Empire of Japan, and thus the whole of the Far East is brought before us in a portable form. Mr. Stanford is so well known as a cartographer, that it is scarcely necessary to add that the execution of the work is admirable.

THE EARL OF ELGIN'S COLLECTION OF WORKS OF ART.—A portion of the choice objects of art collected in China and Japan by the late Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, Governor-General of India, and recently exhibited at the Kensington Museum, was submitted to public competition at the rooms of Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods, in King-street, St. James's, by order of the executors. Also a few bronzes and porcelain, the property of the late Mr. George Roake, and some fine enamels and carvings in jade, recently received from China. The sale excited very great interest, and was numerously attended. The following were the more important articles:—Enamels 67 and 68. An incense-burner, of extraordinary size, on three feet, surmounted by masks of metal gilt, with mask and ring handles, enamelled with flowers in colours on turquoise ground, the cover of enamel, pierced, and surmounted by a kylin of metal-gilt, 3½ ft. high; and the companion incense-burner, on three feet, enamelled with flowers and ornaments in brilliant colours on turquoise ground, the cover of enamel, pierced, and surmounted by a metal gilt kylin, 3 ft. 2 in. high—£139 (Hewett). Carvings in Jade.—80 and 81. A beautiful circular incense-burner of white jade, on three feet, with handles formed of kylins, the cover surmounted by a handle, with two rings attached, and a pair of beautiful small white jade bowls and covers, with dragons, bats, and ornaments in slight relief—£66. 10s. (Archer). Bronzes.—99 and 103. A bacchanal with a horn, and a bacchante—a pair—on bronze pedestals; and a similar pair, a bacchanal with a pipe, and a bacchante with an ewer, on marble plinths—£43. 10s. (Boore). A different property.—A pair of ivory vases, elaborately carved and perforated, the most exquisite specimens of Chinese workmanship ever produced; manufactured expressly for the Great Exhibition of 1862, by that celebrated worker in ivory, Hoaching. These vases are hexagonal, the larger panels measuring 8 in. or 9 in. by 6 in. or 7 in. on the wider sides; these, and the other panels and bars, exhibiting raised figures and foliage, illustrating episodes from classic story. Each vase measures, including ebony stand, about 3½ ft. high. The ivory was selected at Siam, and is very pure—150 guineas (Harbord). 107. A massive Chinese silver vase and cover, manufactured expressly for the Great Exhibition of 1862, weighing 300z.—£114 (Archer). 108. A pair of very large and rare old porcelain pagodas, on lacquered bases, about 18 ft. high; from the Chinese collection, 1843—82 guineas (Hewett). 109. A Chinese skull, lined with gold, and with cover of pure gold; on triangular stand and plinth of the same, chased with dragons and clouds, weighing about 770z. 9dwts. "The Gold-mounted skull from China, which is stated to be that of Confucius, has been described as a drinking cup, but we are not prepared to admit that it ever was applied to that purpose, as it may have been, and probably is, a sacred relic, though we may doubt it is the skull of Confucius himself which is thus richly mounted and preserved. All who visited the Exhibition will doubtless recollect this curious specimen of goldsmith's work as one of the great attractions of the Chinese Court. It was taken from the Summer Palace of the Emperor by one of Fane's cavalry. The skull is placed on a triangular stand of pure gold, and rests on three very roughly shaped gold heads; the cover, also of pure gold, is richly ornamented with minute patterns in low relief, and is studded with small precious stones. The ornament itself presents nothing peculiar, the principal portion of it being formed of the usual Chinese conventional mode of representing clouds or sky, typical, perhaps, of the region to which the soul of the deceased had flown."—Waring's *Masterpieces of Industrial Art*, vol. iii., plate 291. This extraordinary and beautiful work was, after a spirited competition, knocked down to Mr. B. Benjamin, of Glasshouse-street, at the price of £327. Enamels.—126-8. A fine square vase, with landscapes and ornaments in colours, 16½ in. high; a pair of beautiful square lanterns, with openwork borders and stands of enamel, 20 in.; and a pair of curious pagoda-shaped lanterns, of perforated enamel, with coloured glass panels and pendant ornaments, 24 in. high—£93 (Stempson). 136. A magnificent incense-burner, of ancient enamel, with flowers and animals in colours, on turquoise ground, the cover and upper part of pierced and chased metal gilt, on square rose-wood stand carved with masks and foliage—£50 (Wareham). Ancient porcelain.—154 and 187. A pair of very fine square pillars, beautifully enamelled with flowers on sea-green ground, in diamond-shaped medallions, 18 in. high; and a fine vase, of ancient enamel, with ornaments and flowers in colours on turquoise ground—52 guineas (Mr. Jones Loyd).

THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S LINE TO JAPAN.—The *Corea*, a screw steamship, built and engined by Messrs. Goulay Brothers, of Dundee, and purchased by the Peninsula and Oriental Company to run between Japan and Shanghai, left Southampton for that station on the 21st inst. The length of this vessel between perpendiculars is 226 ft., 8 in.; breadth of beam, 27 ft.; depth from top of floor to spar deck, 15 ft. 4 in.; gross tonnage, 609. On her trial trip, which took place a few days since, the *Corea* realised a mean speed of 13.129 knots per hour. With a total weight on board of coals, water, stores, &c., of 404 tons, her mean draught of water was 12 ft. 3 in., and the engines, which are of 200-horse power nominal, indicated 1,044.

THE BURIAL OF THE LATE COUNTESS OF FALMOUTH.—The remains of the late Countess of Falmouth were, on the 7th inst., according to her own last wishes, interred in the family vault of the Earls of Falmouth, at Tregothnan, Truro, Cornwall, between the remains of the Earls, her husband and son. The funeral was attended by a large assembly of relations, friends, and tenants. The lamented Countess, since the death of the Earls, her husband and son, had lived in complete seclusion; but her charities nevertheless continued to be widely extended; not only the aged and dependent on the former properties of her noble husband, but many of the distressed inhabitants of the poorest quarters of London were in constant receipt of relief from her Ladyship.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES.—Mr. J. B. Smith: To ask whether the communications made by the American Minister at Peking, in a despatch to Mr. Seward, the Secretary of State at Washington, and dated the 20th of June, 1863, respecting the joint policy to be pursued in China by England, Russia, France, and America, is substantially in accord with a despatch addressed to Earl Russell, &c. Colonel Sykes: Copy of all Orders in Council or Consular ordinances in China at present in force, for the punishment of breaches of neutrality by British subjects.

Monetary and Commercial.

During the present mania for joint stock banks, we are not astonished to find that persons most interested in them should exert their skill in causing a rise or fall of the price of shares as may be desired, but it is a matter of regret that the names of such men as Harry G. Gordon, Esq., Chairman of the Oriental Bank Corporation, should figure in these affairs. A shareholder of the "British and American Exchange Banking Corporation," of which Mr. Gordon is a director, and Mr. Sam Gray, late of the Oriental Bank in China, is Secretary, has asserted that one or more of the directors have been guilty of extensive dealings in the shares, by which dealings the shares have been forced up from 5 to 25 per cent. The following is the statement referred to:—

"The ten directors, holding together like one man, have stated to you that they 'have not in any way, directly or indirectly, assisted in producing the late extraordinary rise in the premium on the shares.'"

"I take leave, however, now to say that they have directly and indirectly assisted in producing the late extraordinary rise."

"I assert they 'beared' the shares, trying to force the prices down, and forced them up, trying to buy them back. I assert this, and let them collectively, the ten like one man, deny it if they can."

"I know the ten directors held for some time back 318 shares amongst them, and no more. I know that in this state of things one of their number sold 500 shares, and if he could only have driven the shares down to par, he would have made £3,000 to £4,000 by buying the shares back at a lower price than that at which he sold them. The letter to Mr. Slaughter, however, failed to effect this object."

"I believe the result of the 'bearing' was that it drove the *bona fide* holders into an opposite line of action, and that the 'bears' drove the market up, trying to buy back."

It has also been a matter very generally talked about, that Mr. W. W. Cargill, also a director of the Oriental Bank, has joined the boards of a large number of the new banks, and, in fact, this gentleman, to whom the Oriental owe so much during its earlier days, has earned the sobriquet of a "guinea-pig director."

At an extraordinary meeting of the shareholders of the Agra and United Service Bank, Mr. G. G. Macpherson in the chair, the resolutions passed on the 7th May were unanimously carried.

The Imperial Bank of China has advertised for managers for Calcutta, Bombay, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

The meeting of the shareholders of the Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China was duly held on the 17th inst. A report will be found in another column.

The new companies lately introduced to public notice have been as follows:—

The Scottish Fire Insurance Company, capital one million, in 50,000 shares of £20 each. The company is formed under the auspices of a provisional committee, composed of many of the most eminent mercantile names in Edinburgh, Leith, Glasgow, and the other chief towns of Scotland.

The Cadiz, Oporto, and Light Wine Association, capital £150,000, in 15,000 shares of £10 each. It appears that this company adopts the principle of purchasing wine direct from the vineyards, and making the "family grocer" the medium of introduction to the consumer.

The Worcester Engine-Works Company, capital £300,000, in 30,000 shares of £10 each. The object is to construct and maintain locomotive and other engines and machinery, and to sell, lease, or hire, the same. Arrangements have been made for the purchase of the works, machinery, plant, &c., of the firm of Messrs. McKenzie, Clunes, and Holland, of the Vulcan Works, Worcester.

The Ceylon Coffee Estates Company has been formed for the purpose of purchasing and working certain coffee plantations in Ceylon. The directors have contracted with Messrs. David Wilson and John Randon Worcester for the purchase of five valuable estates. The capital of the company is £120,000, in 12,000 shares of £10 each.

The Clyde Steamship Company. The object of the promoters is apparently to place Glasgow and the Clyde ports on an equality in point of steam communication with the other ports of Great Britain, such as Liverpool, Hull, &c., where a great extension of enterprise of this class has taken place during the last few years. The capital is £200,000, in 8,000 shares of £25 each.

The objects of the Floating Telegraph Station and Light-Ship Company are to provide and anchor ships near the ordinary track of vessels, such ships to serve as electric telegraph and signal stations, and also as safety beacons for navigation. The company's ships will be fitted up complete as telegraph stations. It is also intended to provide them with steam power and lanterns for displaying a powerful light. Day and night signals, steam whistles, guns, lifeboats, &c., will form part of their equipment. Steam tenders fitted up for the conveyance of passengers, mail

specie, and merchandise, and capable of acting as tugs, will, moreover, be provided by the company, so that assistance can be rendered to disabled or derelict vessels. The stations selected for the first services of the company are off the Scilly Islands, and off Cape Race, Newfoundland. The capital of the company is £250,000, in 25,000 shares of £10 each.

The Torbay Hotel and Winter Garden Company, capital £50,000, in 5,000 shares of £10 each, of which £1 per share is to be paid on allotment. The company is formed for the purpose of establishing an hotel at Torquay on a scale commensurate with the growing importance of the town as a watering place. There is also to be a winter garden of considerable extent. Arrangements have been made for taking on lease a piece of land excellently situated in close proximity to the railway station, with a southern aspect.

The Freehold and General Investment Company, capital £250,000, in 10,000 shares of £25 each, of which the first issue is to be 5,000 shares. The objects of this company are to purchase from time to time such freehold or leasehold property in London and its neighbourhood as may present special capabilities for improvement as first-class houses, offices, and chambers.

The Hydraulic Tube Drawing and Steel Ordnance Company, capital £150,000, in 15,000 shares of £10 each, is formed for the purpose of purchasing and developing certain new and valuable patents for improvements in the drawing and shaping of metals, and for the machinery employed thereon. The patent has been experimentally worked in Paris for nearly two years, and as the Ordnance Department of France has reported favourably on it, negotiations are at present on foot for the supply of the Imperial Government.

The English, Swedish, and Continental Financial Company, with a capital of £1,000,000, proposes to assist agricultural, railway and other works.

The General Contract Company, capital £1,000,000, to take over the business of Mr. Rowland Brotherhood and his establishment, at the Great Western Railway station, Chippenham.

The Maritime Credit Company, capital £1,000,000, in 20,000 shares of £50 each, is formed for the purpose of making advances by way of mortgage or otherwise on shipping, wharves, ship yards, docks, warehouses, and every description of maritime securities, and will conduct the usual business of a Credit Company.

The London and Venezuela Bank, to which will be transferred the business of the "Bank of Caracas." The great and increasing demand for money for the cultivation of various staples, especially cotton, large quantities of which are now being exported to England, will find abundant employment for all its resources. The board of directors, as at present constituted, is composed of six directors in England, with power to increase their number, and of four directors in Venezuela without that power. The principal control of the bank is to be vested in the English board, who are to select and appoint the manager in Venezuela. The capital proposed to be raised is £500,000 in 10,000 shares of £50 each.

The Tyne Iron Shipbuilding Company, capital £400,000 in £50 shares. It is stated that the works now in operation are capable of turning out 30,000 tons of shipping per annum. A local demand for iron colliers is relied on. The company, furthermore, comes into possession of current contracts. There is a capacious graving dock and ground for a patent slip, which might be made a good source of permanent revenue.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Ceylon*, from Southampton on the 20th inst., was:—In gold: To Alexandria, £3,000; to Madras, £645. In silver: To Calcutta, £15,000; to Penang, £3,080; to Hong Kong, £1,100; to Shanghai, £22,795; to Yokohama, £3,050. Total, in gold, £3,645; in silver, £85,025.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Business done.
100	Agra and United Service, Limited	50	128 to 133 xn.	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	39 to 41	...
20	Do. New	15	18 to 20 pm.	...
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	69 to 71	...
50	London Joint Stock	10	47 to 48	...
100	London and Westminster	20	94 to 95	...
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	61 to 63 xn.	...
50	Union of London	13	37 to 39	...
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	6 to 7 pm. xd.	...
100	Do. New	8	6 to 7 pm.	...
20	Seinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	3½ to 4 pm. xd.	...
25	Do. New	10	3 to 4 pm.	...
100	Bank of Egypt	All	27 to 29	...
100	Bank of London	50	173 to 176	...
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	2 to 2½ pm.	...
MISCELLANEOUS.				
70	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 4	...
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	84 to 86	...
40	Do. New	20	20 to 22 pm.	...
100	Lahore Coal Company	All	...	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	...	...
2	Telegraph to India Company	2	4 to 4½ dis.	...
5	Hombay Gas	All	4½ to 4¾ pm. xn	...
40	E. I. and London Shipping B.	All	3 to 6	...
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	8	2 to 4 dis.	...
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	par to ¼ pm.	...
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	20½ to 21	...
1	Oriental Gas	All	1½ to 1½	...
1	Do. New	4	1½ to 1½	...
100	O. Inland Steam	All	2½ to 3½	...
100	West India Steam Company	60	85 to 87	...
20	Ceylon Company	7	34 to 4½ pm.	...
20	International Finance Society	6	4½ to 6½ pm.	...
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	5½ to 6 pm.	...
10	London Finance Association	15	12½ to 13 pm.	...
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	2	2½ to 3½ pm.	...
20	Société Financière d'Egypte	3	4½ to 4¾ pm.	...
40	Hawson's Bay Company	All	19 to 19½	...
20	British Indian Tea	5	par to ½ pm.	...
70	Upper Assam Tea	7½	21 to 24 pm.	...
10	Do.	All	14 to 17	...

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Business has continued only on a limited scale, although, owing to a belief that present prices are about the lowest likely to be established, there has, within the last week, been more disposition on the part of the trade to buy, whilst there have also been a few speculative purchases of blackish-leaf Congous; and, on the whole, we may quote our market rather firmer both in tone and prices; and as the quantity afloat is now very small, we hope to see a more general demand should money continue to fall in value. Owing to the increase in the duties on teas imported into America, there has been a marked diminution in the demand for that quarter. Low and dusty kinds of Congou have been inquired for at the low prices established at the last public sales. Fair to good common have not been much in request. Fair flavoured kinds show no alteration, being still difficult of sale. There have been some purchases of fair blackish-leaf kinds at a shade better prices. The medium kinds remain much as before. Good to fine Kaisow, also Monings and Wopaks, are in moderate supply, and previous prices have been maintained. There has been but little demand for export for the finest grades of either. Taysans have sold at about previous prices. The new muke Canton kinds show no alteration. Common Oolongs have been dull, owing to the absence of export orders. Other sorts have been steady at about previous rates. Flowery Pekoes and Souchongs remain as last advised. In Scented Teas there is no variation to notice. Sales to a moderate extent have been made both in Capers and Orange Pekoes at about previous prices. Uncoloured Japans have been less in demand, and prices are quoted rather easier. The public sales of Indian Tea went irregularly, but the chief reduction was in the commoner sorts. The new arrivals of Green Tea have been freely offered, and the sales made have been at full prices to 1d. per lb. advance for Gunpowders; Young Hysons realising about previous prices, whilst Hysons have been rather more difficult of sale in the absence of export orders. Canton made Teas show no alteration.

SILK.—Our market during the fortnight has been exceedingly quiet, but prices remain unchanged, holders of silk continuing very firm. The uncertainty as to the prospects of the European crop has caused buyers to hold off until something more definite is known of its probable result. An unfavourable feature is the still further falling off in the deliveries, which show a decrease even upon the miserable figures of the past six months. Deliveries from the 1st to 23rd inclusive:—China, 1,901 bales; Japan, 933 do.; total, 2,834 do. The prices current were:—Taslee: No. 1, 23s. to 23s. 6d.; 2, 22s. to 22s. 6d. Taysam: Keying, No. 1, 20s. to 20s. 6d.; 2, 19s. to 19s. 6d. Mibash: No. 1, 23s. to 23s. 6d.; 2, 22s. to 22s. 6d.

SUGAR.—There was but a moderate business done on Tuesday, the 24th, in West India, but prices in some instances receded about 6d. per cwt. During the preceding week the business reported privately comprised 37,500 bags clayed Manila at 39s. 6d. to 39s. Of sales by auction reported on Friday, 10,032 bags clayed Manila were withdrawn above the value.

COFFEE.—The arrivals being again large, the upward movement in the colonial market has been checked, and the supply brought forward has not all been cleared off; prices, however, remain unchanged. Ceylon: 450 casks, 410 barrels and bags plantation, at public sale, were disposed of, fine ordinary to low middling, 79s. to 82s.; middling to good middling, 83s. to 85s.; fine, 90s. to 92s. Native meets less inquiry, and 340 casks, 1,950 bags, in auction, being held for previous prices, only a small proportion found buyers, good ordinary, 69s.; superior, 70s. 6d. to 71s. Mocha: 234 packages of undesirable quality were withdrawn. East India: At public sale, 41 barrels, 410 bags Malabar were partly sold at full rates, fine ordinary, 74s. to 75s. 6d. The monthly sale of the Dutch Trading Company, on the 18th inst., comprising 83,200 bags, went off ½ to 1 cent below the valuations; good ordinary Java, 43½ to 44 cents. No public sales took place on the 24th, and in the private market a few parcels of native Ceylon were disposed of at about former prices.

RICE.—8,546 bags new white Bengal, at public sale, on Friday, were chiefly bought in, Askooli 11s., good white 13s.; 2,783 bags cargo sort and Ballam were partly realised, middling 8s. 6d. to 9s., fine 10s. to 10s. 6d.; 15,575 bags Rangoon were nearly all withdrawn at 9s. to 9s. 6d. Privately, 4,000 bags low red cargo Bengal have been sold at 8s. 3d. On the 24th, East India descriptions continued to command full rates.

COTTON.—Since the early part of last week there has been less animation in the market, but a firm tone has prevailed, and prices are unaltered. 5,400 bales have been sold on the spot, low middling to fully fair Tinnivelli Madras 17½d. to 22d., middling fair to fair Western 20d. to 21½d., ordinary to good fair Bengal 13½d. to 17½d., and fair to very good China 19½d. to 20½d. For arrival, 8,300 bales have been taken, China 19½d. to 19½d., Japan 20½d., and Bengal 17d. to 17½d. per lb. On the 24th, the market was quiet, without change.

CAMPHOR.—Cheaper; 254 tubs and cases Japan at auction retired at £5 to £5. 5s. per cwt. 100 subsequently sold at £5. Of 630 chests China, a small proportion sold at 90s. to 91s. for very dark.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—A recent importation, 1,000 boxes, sold readily at auction at 86s. to 93s. per cwt. for 3rd to 1st pile, being very full prices. Buds: Selling slowly at our higher quotation of £16.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Very quiet; and 300 bags at auction all retired. Dragon's Blood: Continues flat; and of 19 boxes at auction, a single one alone sold at £9. 5s. per cwt. for good lump. Galangal Root: Steady; 29 bags at auction sold at 21s. per cwt. for fair quality. Rhubarb: Firm, but with very little demand at present extreme rates, the highest quotation being 8s. 91 chests at auction all retired.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Fine qualities inquired for, and scarce. Of 222 cases Sumatra at auction, rather more than half sold at 31s. to 39s. per cwt. for low fourth quality, being dearer. Damer: Flat, and 101 cases at auction all retired. Gamboge: Steady, but 11 cases at auction were all retired.

GUTTA PERCHA.—In increased demand; 31 tons at auction all retired, but the bulk subsequently sold at full prices; a large quantity in all changed hands up to 2s. 6d. per lb. India Rubber: Some revival in demand, and sales of good quality effected to a fair extent, mainly at 1s. 5d. per lb. 302 baskets Penang at auction, all retired.

HEMP.—Manila: £31 to £34. 10s. During the present week about 300 tons Roping are reported sold at firm rates.

HORNS.—Auctions confined to half a ton Penang buffalo horns, sold at 39s. 6d. per cwt., for 2½ lb. average.

JAPAN WAX.—Auctions have combined 116 cases. Saucers sold at 63s. to 63s. 6d. per cwt. for good, being 2s. to 3s. lower; and 398 cases block, all retired.

OILS.—Annisseed: Rather better; moderate business on the spot at the quotations of 6s. 8d. to 6s. 9d., and for arrival at 6s. 9d. to 6s. 10d. per lb. Cassia: Remains flat and without buyers, at 9s. 3d. to 9s. 6d.; 4 cases at auction retired. Cinnamon: Of 3 cases at auction one sold at 3s. per oz. for fine. Mace and Nutmegs: Nothing doing; small sales of paste at 1d. per oz.

SAGO.—Small grain is fully 6d. per cwt cheaper; of 1,185 boxes at auction, half sold at 22s. 6d. to 23s. per cwt. for fair to good small. Flour: again the turn lower, small sales having been effected privately at 14s. 9d. per cwt. cash. Tapioca: Of 1,220 bags Penang, the greater part found buyers, common to good middling 2d. to 2½d. per lb.; good bought in at 3d.

SPICES.—Cloves: Penang steady; and 2 cases sold at auction at 1s. 3d. to 1s. 8½d. per lb. for good. Amboyna and Zanzibar dearer; and 10 cases of the former at auction sold at 6d. per lb. for good; fair business in Zanzibar at 4d. to 4½d. Mace: Steady; 3 cases Penang at auction sold at 1s. 10½d. per lb. for fair palish. 3 cases Singapore, and 10 cases Batavia retired. Nutmegs: Steady; 16 cases Penang, and 4 cases Singapore at auction, mostly sold at 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d. per lb. for middling to fair bold, and 1s. 3d. to 2s. fair small to good medium. Pepper: Black remains very flat, transactions being nearly nil. Only 121 bags Singapore at auction, and those retired. White continues quiet, without change in value, and scarcely any trade.

TERRA JAPONICA. Cutch, Pegue: Market still very quiet. 1,169 bags at auction, all retired, but business to a fair extent accomplished privately at our higher quotation of 26s. 6d. for fine. Gambier: Dearer; 230 bales good sold at auction at 23s. 9d. per cwt.; fair trade also privately up to 24s. 3d. on the spot, and 24s. 9d. for arrival.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Blacklead: Has sold irregularly, but of 709 barrels at auction two-thirds sold at 11s. at 20s. 3d. per cwt. for middling to very good lump, and 8s. 9d. to 10s. 6d. fair to fine dust. Galls: All kinds—Bussoral, China, and Japan—very scarce, and in strong demand. We quote Japan and China 80s. to 100s. per cwt. 10 cases China sold at auction at 90s. per cwt. for middling quality; and 60 cases fine Japan at 92s. 6d. Musk: very quiet, with the smallest trade, supplies increasing materially, and large sales advertised. Rattans: In more adequate supply, and cheaper; and 32,653 bundles Singapore and 7,000 bundles Penang at auction, mostly sold at 3s. 6d. to 6s. 8d. per 100. Sapanwood: Continues firm; and 39 tons Siam at auction, sold at £10 to £12. 5s. per ton for middling to good; 98 tons Manila sold at £7. 15s. to £8. 10s. old and weathered, and two tons Ceylon £8 to £8. 10s. Star Annisseed: Not any stock in the market: much wanted. Sticklac, Siam: Cheaper, and of 872 cases at auction one-third sold at 42s. to 44s. per cwt. for fair, rather small, and woody.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £8. 10s.; nail rod, £9. 10s.; hoops, £11; sheets, single £12; Staffordshire bars, £10; nails, £7. 10s. to £7. 15s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £17.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £105 per ton; yellow metal, 8½d. to 9d. per lb.

TIN.—108s. for block; 109s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 30s. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £21. 15s. to £22; W.B., £23; shot, patent, £24; sheet, £22; spelter, £22. 15s. to £23; zinc, English sheet, £25; quicksilver, £8. 15s.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—Since our last Circular, 13th inst., there has been but little change in the aspect of our market. Iron remains stationary. For Copper there is rather more enquiry. Tin: English is in moderate demand, the price for Straits is now 106s. cash, Banca 110. Tin Plates are very quiet. Lead steady. Spelter is again dearer, transactions being reported at £22. 15s. spot, £23 for July delivery. In Quicksilver no alteration.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£141,246
Foo-chow-Foo	—	6,430
Hong Kong	£5,000	345,007
Amoy	—	—
Singapore	£3,750	115,875
Penang	—	99,295

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£36,276
Hong Kong	£31,568	81,520
Singapore	—	18,920
Penang	—	5,193
Foo-chow-Foo	—	1,000

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0 to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 34
Silver in Bars	0 5 1
Mexican Dollars	0 5 3

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

Mr. Mendel's Circular states that prices are firmly maintained: Grey Shirtings, 7 lbs., 17s. 6d. to 18s.; 9 lbs., 23s. Cotton Yarns, 16-24, 2s. 7d. to 2s. 8d.; 28-32, 2s. 10d. to 3s. 6d. Madrasellams, 7s. 9d. Long Cloths, 20s. 3d. T-Cloths, 14s. 3d. White Spot Shirtings, 21s. 6d.; White Brocade do., 21s. 9d.; White Damasks, 37s. 6d.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
May 14	Marseilles	Alexandria	Said (str.)	Nicolay.
— 15	Deal	Catania	Junco	Van Breen.
— 14	Off T-bay	Sourabaya	Hendrina	—
— 15	Liverpool	Manila	Elias	—
Apr. 25	Havana	Macao	Arizona	Belpardo.
— 30	New York	Canton	Hamilla Mitchell	—
May 1	Boston	Manila	Darioz	He-ry.
— 16	Deal	Japan	Louis Kniffer	Sceman.
— 16	Off Falmouth	Manila	Helvetica	Boysen.
— 14	Havre	Manila	Toufrette	Deroux.
— 12	Palas (B I)	Singapore, &c.	Estelle	Lechaud.
— 12	Goedaux	Do.	Houghly	Veiller.
— 13	Do.	Do.	St. Michel	Frada.
— 17	Deal	Shanghai	Thomas Dryden	Brown.
— 17	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Norwood	Bristow.
— 17	Brouwershaven	Shanghai	Isaac da Costa	Kein.
— 17	Liverpool	Shanghai	Ralston	Davis.
— 14	Texel	Sourabaya	Henrietta Goettrich	Cotter.
— 16	Off Plymouth	Shanghai	Oliver Cronwell	Clark.
— 16	Off Dover	Banjoeangie	Cornelis Gips	Leyffert.
— 14	Texel	Sourabaya	Prins Carl	Bergman.
— 17	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Dolfin	Gollads.
— 16	Do.	Do.	Anne Dathie	Matheson.
— 16	Do.	Singapore	Spanker	—
— 14	Off Portland	Banjoeangie	Paul Johan	Kooy.
— 17	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Dewyk	H-einap.
— 12	Cadiz	Manila	Mogaria	—
— 20	London	Kanagawa	Alexandria	Morris.
— 16	Off Plymouth	Pasaroang	Oscar I.	Thomson.
— 16	Off Scilly	Batavia	Tithia	—
— 4	New York	Shanghai	Hermine	Berg.
— 4	Do.	Do.	Thetis	Gouldin.
— 19	Cuxhaven	Maulmain	Batavia	Grell.
— 19	Texel	Banjoeangie	N-verheid	Ten-aap.
— 19	Brouwerhaven	Batavia	Ridderkirk	Re-mk.
— 19	Do.	Banjoeangie	Ida Wilmina	Re-mk.
— 23	Deal	Shanghai	Fair Leader	Peace.
— 23	London	Singapore	Early Dawn	Norris.
— 23	Deal	Shanghai	Aurora Australis	Davidson.
— 21	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Bella	Turner.
— 21	Texel	Sourabaya	Watergrus	Green.
— 21	Do.	Banjoeangie	Laura and Adele	Lund.
— 21	Brouwershaven	Padang	Johanna Maria	Wilhe mie.
— 19	Bordeaux	Singapore	Aquiste Duria	Goyau.
— 9	New York	Shanghai	Capila	Timan.
— 10	Off Mount's Bay	Padang	Van der Palm	—
— 22	Liverpool	Shanghai	Alice Tauter	Barnaby.
— 20	Hamburg	Sourabaya	Orion	uir.
— 20	Do.	Batavia	Nord	Lange.
— 19	Quebec	China	Asia	—
— 23	Deal	Hong Kong	Bio	—
— 19	Texel	Banjoeangie	Sir R bert Peel	Lange.
— 16	Deal	Batavia	Wilhelmine Johanna	A-derson.
— 8	Falmouth	Macao	Iron	Snur.
Apr. 25	New York	Shanghai	Elizabeth	Tryselius.
May 9	Clyde	Maulmain	Princess of Wales	—
— 4	Texel	Padang	Koerier	Carst.
— 5	Brouwerhaven	Banjoeangie	Susanna Johanna	Peters.
— 8	Off Portland	Foo-chow-Foo	Weymouth	Norris.
— 7	Off Dartmouth	Shanghai	Angonia	Hay.
— 7	Do.	Do.	Landowne	Wain.
— 10	Deal	Foo-chow-Foo	Pak Wan	Avrenten.
— 9	Falmouth	Singapore	Emma	Dunne.
— 11	Off Liverpool	Shanghai	Queensbury	lindwood.
— 10	Off Plymouth	Batavia	Marquis of Argyle	Lange.
— 10	Deal	Do.	Nord	Grell.
— 10	Off Plymouth	Maulmain	Batavia	—
— 10	Off Plymouth	Foo-chow-Foo	Stuart Wortley	Holmes.
— 9	Off the start	Shanghai	Oithona	Morg-n.
— 9	Do.	Do.	Edmont	Breckanridge.
Apr. 27	New York	Do.	Kate Carnie	Lau ence.
— 27	Do.	Canton	Ceres	Douglas.
— 27	Do.	Shanghai	Annie Wood	Christensen.
— 27	Do.	Do.	Johanna	Van Numec.
— 27	Do.	Kanagawa, &c.	Sarah	Fratic.
— 28	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Peep o'Day	Gordon.
— 29	Do.	Do.	Kulumba	—
— 29	Off do.	Canton	A barque (not Amru.)	—
May 10	Falmouth	Hong Kong	Windward	—
— 11	Do.	Sourabaya	Sir Robert Peel	Lange.
— 13	Liverpool	Shanghai	Rance	Dickson.
— 13	Off Plymouth	Do.	Island Queen	Chapman.
— 13	Off Mount's Bay	Do.	Sir Harry Parkes	Logan.
— 13	Off the Eddystone	Canton	Tamerlane	—
— 10	Off Scilly	Batavia	Johanna Maria	—
— 10	Off the Start	Canton	Cumberland	Storey.
— 11	Downs	Foo-chow-Foo	Hera d	Drew.
— 11	Off Falmouth	Penang	Rockiff	Kleiv.
— 14	Do.	Sourabaya	Sophie Kon. d. Neder	Bardoe.
— 16	Downs	Japan	Istambul	Stoddart.
— 16	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Koh-noor	Green.
— 16	Do.	Singapore	Crusader	—

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Apr. 30	New York	Hong Kong	Maribelle	—
May 14	Shields	Shanghai	James	Malchin.
— 13	Cardiff	Singapore	Woolava	—
— 13	Off Dungeness	Java	Nova Zembla	Whitesmith.
— 14	Shields	Hong Kong	Sophia	—
— 10	Off the Start	Singapore	Altenaar	St. Clair.
— 14	Shields	Do.	Johore, str.	Browes.
— 19	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Sameralda	De-an Vienta.
— 19	Do.	Manila	Ercilla	Jewett.
— 17	Do.	Singapore	Golden West	Plummer.
— 18	London	Shanghai	Angl. Siron	Skewen.
— 16	Off Portsmouth	Batavia	Seasokle	Hayley.
— 16	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Lo ling	Hidcup.
— 19	Liverpool	Do.	Curysis	—
— 20	London	Cardiff and Shanghai	Amaranth	Robinson.
— 19	Off Dover	Hong Kong	Louis and Emma	Baron.
— 21	London	Shanghai	Celestial	—
— 28	Newport	Do.	Princess of Wales	—

DEPARTURES—continued.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
— 19	Do.	Hong Kong	Atlantic	Suhr.
— 18	Cardiff	Shanghai	Arthur	Matthews.
— 17	Liverpool	Singapore	Hong Ho	C. rington.
— 17	Shields	Hong Kong	Daisy	Valbar h.
Apr. 8	Rio Janeiro	Singapore	Tuspan	Pateron.
May 23	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Star of the North	Spence.
— 20	London	Singapore	Moneta	Turnbull.
— 21	Glasgow	Shanghai	Glenclyn	Waal.
— 21	Off Dover	Batavia	Johannes Lodewyk	Drinkwater.
— 22	Sunderland	Shanghai	Congress	Huyser.
— 14	Off Beachy Head	Samarang	Brouwershaven	Christiansen.
— 21	Southampton	China & Japan	Corea, str.	Brown.
— 25	Liverpool	Singapore	Veteran	Forbes.
— 6	New York	Shanghai	Lancaster	Wilson.
— 9	London	Do.	Sir W. F. Williams	Suhr.
— 6	Newport	Hong Kong	Atlantic	Bingham.
— 7	Liverpool	Shanghai	Jane Leech	Nielson.
— 10	Do.	Hong Kong	Amazon	Roberts.
— 19	Do.	Penang	Fairy Belle	Purdy.
— 20	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Dilkhoosh	Wood.
— 10	Do.	Newport & Shanghai	John C. Munro	Hill.
— 6	Off Dover	Macassar	Helena	Dobbel.
— 7	Cardiff	Shanghai	Cherokee, str.	Toranzo.
— 7	Liverpool	Batavia & Sourabaya	Impulse	Small.
— 6	Sunderland	Singapore	Elise Henriette	Deterding.
Apr. 28	Texel	Batavia	Osprey	Andrew.
May 11	Port Glasgow	Singapore & Penang	Feen Chang, str.	Guillet.
— 12	Do.	Shanghai	Valcan, str.	Neilson.
— 11	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Eliza Stewart	Osborne.
— 11	London	Singapore	Xanthippe	Rees.
— 11	Deal	China	Niagara	Krefting.
— 7	Off Beachy Head	Batavia	Kortenaar	Schuchard.
— 9	Cardiff	Shanghai	Spirit of Trade	Samson.
— 9	Liverpool	Do.	Hannover	Piening.
— 10	Shields	Singapore	St. Oswin	Atkinson.
— 8	Off Lowestoft	Do.	Helena	Knudden.
— 10	Cardiff	Shanghai	Palmerston	Williams.
— 9	Swansea	Hong Kong	Philip I.	Koeh.
— 13	Liverpool	Do.	Gemini	Hertz.
— 11	Cardiff	Shanghai	Pillen Elena	Tomanovich.
— 11	Do.	Singapore	Schadis	Bu cke.
— 13	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Sydney Eggers	Richardson.
— 13	Newport	Shanghai	Analst	Crosby.
— 16	Liverpool	Singapore & Shanghai	Conference	Reid.
— 14	London	Singapore & Penang	Moneta	Spears.
— 14	Do.	Newport & Shanghai	Clarendon	King.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Kanagawa and Nagasaki: Norfolk, Velocidade, For Shanghai: Aurora Australis, Isles of the South, Tamerlane, Sir Harry Parkes. For Hong Kong and Canton: Sovereign of India, Pak Wan, Mary Mildred. For Hong Kong: Maiden Queen. For Manila: Elia, Angela. For Singapore: Coromandel. For Penang: Mangerton. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Heilige Liduina.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Sea Horse, Alice, Twilight. For Hong Kong: Falcon, Prince Arthur. For Hong Kong and Canton: Juanpore. For Singapore: Mount Vernon, Simoom, Prince Walde-mar. For Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Spirit of the Sea. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Oceana. For Sourabaya, Gazelle.

At GLASGOW.—For Singapore and Kanagawa: Stad Enschedi. For the Cape, Singapore, and Hong Kong: Glengyle (str.).

At PORT GLASGOW.—For Bombay and Shanghai: Ta-pang-nyo.

SPOKEN.

THOMAS MITCHELL, of and from Glasgow, for Batavia, May 5, 40, N., 16 W.

PROPHETE (French ship) Bordeaux to Singapore, Feb. 11.

ALTONA, Bordeaux to Hong Kong, April 4, 1 S., 22 W.

HELENA and ANNA, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 10, 4 N., 25 W.

MENTOR (Dutch barque), Amsterdam to Padang, May 10, 49 N., 8 W.

GREZTRUIDA MARIA, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 24, 28 N., 13 W.

LADY BIRD (?), Java to Rotterdam, March 10, 34 S., 22 E.

ORTELUS, Java to Amsterdam, Feb. 14.

LAURENTIUS EMILIE, Shanghai to Montreal, March 15, 35 S., 23 E.

ISABEL (barque), Newport to Hong Kong, Jan. 20, 22 S., 28 W.

QUEEN OF THE EAST, Sunderland to Shanghai, April 11, 3 N., 25 W.

JULIA (Dutch barque), Rotterdam to Java, April 13, 2 N., 25 W.

OSCAR, Madeira to Rotterdam, April 19, 21 N., 44 W.

ELISABETH RONNEBERG, (barq.), Clyde to Sing., Mar. 26, 7 S., 30 W.

EDINBURGH CASTLE, Penang to London, April 1, 18 S., 9 W.

HARKAWAY, Sunderland to Hong Kong, April 13, 1 N., 21 W.

PATNA, Liverpool to China, April 15, 1 N., 20 W.

CARISBROOK, for China, April 15, 1 N., 20 W.

PRESTON, Shanghai to Hamburg, April 10, 1 S., 21 W.

ANTONIO LEWIS, New York to Shanghai, April 28, 26 N., 37 (?) W.

VARINA (?), Liverpool to Hong Kong, 47 days out, 5 S., 29 W.

ORANJE NASSAU, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 10, 4 N., 26 W.

NEDERLAND and ORANJE, Amsterdam to Batavia, April 11, 3 N., 25 W.

LICHTSTRAAL, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 9, 47 N., 10 W.

QUEENSTOWN, Shanghai to Liverpool, Mar. 17.

CASTOR, Liverpool to Singapore, April 17, 1 S.

BERNESE (?), (Dut. ship), Bat. to Rottm., 53 days out, Mar. 23.

G. H. AND Co. (Dut. ship), Sourabaya to Amsterdam, April 1.

PALMYRA (Dut. ship), Batavia to Amstm., Mar. 31, off St. Helena.

DONNA MARIA, Manila to Liverpool, Mar. 13, 33 S., 30 E.

ALLANDALE, Singapore to London, Mar. 17, 35 S., 21 E.

QUEEN OF NATIONS, London to Shanghai, April 12, on the line, 22 W.

ROYAL WIND (?), Foo-chow-Foo to New York, Mar. 8, 33 S., 32 E.

LAUREL, London to Shanghai, May 13, 47 N., 11 W.

RECIFE, Liverpool to Shanghai, April 12, 2 N., 25 W.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Governor Van Swieten, Cissy, Macedonia, Nelly, Mary Shepherd, and Cymbeline. At LIVERPOOL: Marion, Forerunner, and Vampire. At NEW YORK: Benefactor and Osborne.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Monarch, Belle, Annie Archbell, Stornoway, M. M. Peter, Wm. Thompson, Samuel, Sea Witch, Spirit of

the North, Daybreak, Black Watch, Queen's Own, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Thomas and Rebecca, Robert Henderson, Magnus, Nelly, Josephine, Glaramara, Sappho, and Charles Davenport. At LIVERPOOL: Joshua Bates, Wm. Dawson, Cornelia, Inamhere, Alchymist, Isabella Hercus, Constantia, Nancy Brysson, Thomas Royden, Regina, Victory, Bertie, Helena, Black Prince, Glengairn, Bristow, Cornelia Hendrika, Henriette Cornelis, Victoria, Montgomery, Veloz, Devonshire, Antelope, Bentinck, Polmaise, George Ruxton, Blackburn, Macassar, Berdinkha, Crest of the Wave, Patrician, Vanguard, and Ann Forster. At ENGLAND: H.M.S. Encounter. At FALMOUTH: Divina, Panama, and La Plata. At HAMBURG: Johanna, Alt Mecklenburg, and Gravina. At NEW YORK: Lettice Catharina, Dorchester, Volunteer, Egean, Hermann, Haversham, Canton, Neuhof, Mecklenburg, Lord Collingwood, Silvercraig, St. Paul, Santon, and Mercara. At MONTREAL: H. E. Sassaune, Tycoon, Madura, and Romeo.

From MANILA.—At FALMOUTH: Maggie Lauder. At LIVERPOOL: Teide, Burdoes y Habana No. 1, J.A.U., Concepcion, Bella Gallega, Lyolla and Cervantes (via Cadiz). At COWES: Manila. At ROTTERDAM: Zanibar. At NEW YORK: Castilian, Surprise, Willy, Solo, and Argonaut.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Eliza Thornton, Oscar, Constance, Najade, and Chili. At ENGLAND: H.M.S. Centaur and Pearl. At LIVERPOOL: Bella, and Gallega. At FALMOUTH (for orders): Helene. At BORDEAUX: Salares. At NEW YORK: Caroline, Rudolf, and Harburg.

From BATAVIA.—At LONDON: West. At FALMOUTH: Fredrika. From PENANG.—At LONDON: Edinburgh Castle, and Devonvale. At FALMOUTH: Schlosser.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

On the Freight Market we have but little to report. Export business continues dull, and outward rates remain unaltered. Homeward rates are good, and vessels are already in request for next season's rice crop at 75s. to 85s. per ton from the usual range of ports.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meat. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meat. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meat. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meat. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meat. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £138 to £40, and £1. 18s. For Shanghai: £50 to £52, and £2. 9s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £27. 10s., and £1. 5s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 34 tons light Government stores from the river Thames to Hong Kong, and have ordered the Mary Mildred to be surveyed for that purpose.

CASUALTIES.

The Thetis, Rohdin, which arrived at New York 6th May, from Shanghai, encountered on the 28th Feb., in 28 S., 36 E., a very heavy hurricane, commencing at E.N.E., round to W.N.W., throwing the vessel on her beam ends, carrying away part of bulwarks, and doing other damage.

A Portuguese brigantine, which arrived at St. Michael's 5th May from the Cape de Verdes, had on board 15 of the crew of the Childe Harold, Gunnion, from Shanghai for Liverpool, before reported abandoned; she has proceeded on with them for Lisbon.

St. Helena, 14th April.—The Teide, of Cadiz, Becard, from Manila for Liverpool, put in here 1st April, making three inches water per half hour, and has been recommended to discharge a portion of her cargo to find out the leak.

The Zanzibar (barque), of Hamburg, from Batavia to Rotterdam, with only her mainsail set, having lost her foremast, main top-mast, jibboom, &c., and steering for Simon's Bay for repairs, was spoken 5th March, in lat. 27 S., long. 52 E.

At ST. HELENA.—March 30, Rio (Swedish brig), Wallatz, from Hong Kong, and sailed, 31, for London; Fair Leader, Pearce, from Shanghai, and sailed for London; Alice Tainter, Barnaby, from Shanghai, and sailed for Liverpool; 31, Maria Catharina, de Bos, from Batavia, and sailed, April 1, for Amsterdam; Cornelia Hendrika, Straaten, from Hong Kong, and sailed, April 1, for Liverpool; Tycoon, Mutter, from Shanghai, and sailed for Montreal; Regina Maris, Ouwehand, from Sourabaya, and sailed, April 1, for Amsterdam; April 1, Manila, from Manila, and sailed for London; Teide, from Manila, and sailed for Liverpool; 12, Chili, from Singapore, and sailed, 15, for London; 15, H.M.S. Centaur, from China and the Cape, and sailed for England, March 31; Nederland, from Batavia, and sailed, 1, April, for Amsterdam; April 1, Rudolph, from Singapore, and sailed for New York; Henrietta Maria, from Batavia, and sailed for Amsterdam; 3, Ortelius, from Banjoewangie, and sailed, 4, for Amsterdam; 4, Admiral de Ruyter, from Sourabaya, and sailed, 5, for Amsterdam; Catherine Wilhelmina, from Banjoewangie, and sailed, 5, for Amsterdam; 5, Jedo, from Samarang, and sailed, 6, for Rotterdam; Capella, from Sourabaya, and sailed, 6, for Amsterdam; 11, Holland, from Java, and sailed, 13, for Amsterdam.

At TABLE BAY.—March 23, Ramolino, Crowley, from Newcastle, and sailed, 30, for Hong Kong; 25, Kiu-Kiang, str., Taylor, from New York, and sailed, 31, for China; 30, Emilie, Lundstrom, from Cheribon, and sailed, April 2, for Stockholm; April 1, Yenn Tze-Fee, str., Stocks, from Glasgow, and left, 4, for China; 8, Countess of Yarborough, from Cardiff for China.

OFF ST. HELENA.—April 2, Devonshire, from Hong Kong for Liverpool.

SIMON'S BAY.—March 28, H.M.S. Pearl, from Hong Kong, and sailed April 5, for England; 31, H.M.S. Centaur, from Hong Kong, and sailed April 3, for England.

The Confederate steamer Alabama left Table Bay, March 25.

CHARTERED

MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON, AND CHINA.

(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.)

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT of the COURT of DIRECTORS to the SHAREHOLDERS.

The Directors have the pleasure of presenting to the Shareholders the Audited Balance Sheet, and Profit and Loss Account of the Bank, for the year ended 31st December last.

After providing for all bad and doubtful debts, and defraying expenses of management at all points, the net profit amounts to £196,562. 2s., to which has to be added a sum of £4,269. 9s. 2d. undivided profit, brought forward from the preceding year, making a total of £200,831. 11s. 2d.

Out of the above total, £50,000 has been paid in two Half-Yearly Dividends, and £25,000 as a Bonus, making together 15 per cent. on the paid-up Capital of the Bank. A further sum of £50,000 had been added to the Reserve Fund. The unappropriated balance of £75,831. 11s. 2d. is carried forward to the Profit and Loss Account of the current year.

As will be seen by the Accounts, the premium on New Shares paid up to 31st December, amounting to £81,140, has been added to the Reserve Fund; the balance due in respect of same, £18,860, since received, has also been passed to this account, which, with the addition of £50,000 from the year's profits above referred to, makes a total at this date at credit of that fund of £250,000.

The Directors have purchased Freehold Premises for the Bank's Agencies at Bombay, Colombo, Singapore, Shanghai, and Yokohama.

Agencies of the Bank have been opened at Point de Galle and Newera Ellia in Ceylon, Tuticorin in Southern India, Hankow in China, and Yokohama in Japan.

The ten thousand New Shares have been all taken up by the Shareholders to whom they were allotted, and the sum paid up to this date on account of the New Capital amounts to £134,815.

The Directors retiring are Mr. GEORGE GARDEN NICOL and Mr. GEORGE PALMER ROBINSON, who, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election, and the Court recommend them accordingly.

The Shareholders will have to appoint Auditors for the current year.

GEO. G. NICOL, Chairman.

52, Threadneedle-street, 27th April, 1864.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON, AND CHINA

GENERAL BALANCE for the Year ended 31st DECEMBER, 1863.

LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
DR.				CR.			
Capital paid up on original Shares	...	...	£500,000 0 0	Coin and Bullion	...	...	£1,477,464 4 11
Do. New Shares in course of payment	...	...	80,995 0 0	Cash with Bankers, and Money at Call	...	...	495,091 0 11
Current and Fixed Deposits	...	...	2,699,967 3 1	Government Securities	...	...	293,647 4 9
Bills Payable, Notes in Circulation, and other sums due to the Public	...	...	5,965,260 4 10	Reserved Fund Investment Account	...	...	100,000 0 0
RESERVE FUND.—Balance at 31st December, 1862	...	£100,000 0 0		Landed and House Property at Head Office and Branches	...	...	42,190 4 8
Premium of £10 per Share on New Shares in course of payment	...	81,140 0 0		Bills Receivable, Loans and other Debts due to the Corporation	...	...	7,194,801 3 10
			181,140 0 0				
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT—							
Balance for year ended 31st December, 1863, after deduction of Charges, Income-tax for year to date, and bad and doubtful debts	...	£200,831 11 2					
Less Dividend paid for half-year ended 30th June, 1863	...	25,000 0 0					
			175,831 11 2				
			£9,603,193 19 1				£9,603,193 19 1

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

To Dividend for half-year ended 30th June, 1863	...	£25,000 0 0	By Balance of Undivided Profit from 31st December, 1862	...	£4,269 9 2
" ditto ditto 31st December, 1863	...	25,000 0 0	" Net Profit for the year ended 31st December, 1863	...	196,562 2 0
" Bonus for the year ended 31st December, 1863	...	25,000 0 0			
" Amount carried to Reserve Fund	...	50,000 0 0			
" Balance carried forward	...	75,831 11 2			
		£200,831 11 2			£200,831 11 2

RESERVE FUND.

To Balance	...	£231,140 0 0	1864, January 1. By Balance brought forward	...	£75,831 11 2
			By Balance on 31st December, 1862	...	£100,000 0 0
			" Premium of £10 per Share on New Shares received up to 31st December, 1863, as above	...	81,140 0 0
			" Amount from Profit and Loss Account, as above	...	50,000 0 0
					£231,140 0 0
		£231,140 0 0	1864, January 1. By Balance brought forward	...	£231,140 0 0

D. T. ROBERTSON, Chief Manager.
J. M. REID, Chief Accountant.

GEO. G. NICOL, Chairman.
D. LARNACH,
GEORGE MAY, } Directors.

LONDON, 27TH APRIL, 1864.—We have examined the several Statements transmitted from the Managers of the several Branches, and also the Books in London, upon which the above Accounts have been framed, and hereby certify to their correctness, according to such Books and Statements, to 31st December, 1863.

COLEMAN, TURQUAND, YOUNGS, & Co., 16, Tokenhouse-yard, E.C., Public Accountants.

LONDON, 27TH APRIL, 1864.—We have examined the Bills of Exchange, Local Bills discounted, and other Securities held by the Bank, against Loans, &c., and we are satisfied that they are available, and that sufficient deductions have been made from the profits of the year ended 31st December, 1863, for all bad and doubtful debts, according to the Statements received from the several Branches in India and China.

J. SMITH,
J. MURRAY ROBERTSON } Auditors.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, AND JAPAN (Limited).

16, CORNHILL, LONDON.
Capital, Two Millions.

BANKERS.
Bank of England, The Alliance Bank of London and Liverpool, Calcutta, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

Deposits received at 10 days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed periods, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued, and bills negotiated, payable in India, China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government Loan Notes effected, so that the interest may be paid in England.

Every other description of banking and agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

"CHINA MAIL" OFFICE.

PUBLISHED at this Office, No. 2, WYNDHAM-STREET (back of the Club):—

1.—THE EVENING MAIL, EVERY DAY.

PRICE.—2 dols. per month.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING.—First insertion, Ten lines and under, 1 dol.; each additional line, 10 cents. Subsequent insertions, per week, 50 cents and 5 cents:—("Auction" Notices excepted, for which only One Charge per week is made).

2.—THE CHINA MAIL,

ONCE A WEEK.

(On Thursday Night).

PRICE.—15 dols. per annum; Single Copies, 44 cents. ADVERTISING.—First insertion, five lines, 1 dol.; each additional line, 20 cents. Subsequent insertions, 50 cents and 10 cents.

3.—THE OVERLAND MAIL.

ONCE A MONTH.

(The Morning of the Mail's despatch.)

PRICE.—To Subscribers to the Weekly issue, 8 dols.; to non-subscribers, 12 dols. Single copies, 50 cents.

ADVERTISING.—The same as in the Weekly. All "Notices of Firms" appearing in the Weekly will be inserted in the *Overland*, and charged for, unless otherwise ordered.

Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

A. SHORTREDE & CO.

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

The most reliable intelligence from these colonies is given in the *AUSTRALIAN* and *NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE*, published every Saturday, price 6d., free by post.

London: F. ALGAR, 11, Clement's-lane, City.

THE CANADIAN NEWS AND BRITISH COLUMBIAN INTELLIGENCE gives the latest intelligence from all parts of Canada and the new Gold Fields, also Original Correspondence from Canada, &c. Price post free, 5d.

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Natural digestive Pas ill's.—These lozenges made with the Vichy Salts are a sovereign remedy against the mal-digestions in hot countries, and aid materially the action of the mineral water taken internally. A very agreeable sweetmeat.

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PAYNE'S INDIAN CURRY POWDER

is unequalled for its delicious flavour and stimulating qualities.

1 lb. Bottles, 5s. 6d., 2s. 3d., and 1s. 6d. each.

Curry and Mulligatawny Paste, jars, 3s. 6d. and 2s. 3d. each.

Royal Combination Pickle, bottles, 2s. each.

N.B.—This pickle is highly approved, and as a treat for cold meat, &c., will be found unrivalled.

LIST OF CONDIMENTS, &c., prepared by PAYNE AND CO., at the Belatee Bungalow Calcutta.

	Bottles.
Pindaree Chutnee	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Bengal Club, do.	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Green Mango, do.	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Cashmere, do.	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Lockwood (sweet), do.	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Curry Sauce, do.	1s. 6d.
Tap, do.	1s. 6d.
Pickled Limes	1s. 6d.
Pickled Mangoes	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Essence of Chillies	1s. 9d.
Tamarind Fish	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Balahow	1s. and 2s.
Genuine Cayenne	1s. and 2s.
Nepaul Pepper	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Guaia Jelly	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Preserved Mangoes	1s. 6d.
Do Jamaica Ginger	1s. 6d.
Do Chinese Ginger	1s. 6d.
Genuine Arrowroot	1 lb. tins, 2s.; 7 lb. tins, 10s. 6d. each.

PAYNE AND CO.,

OREIGN WAREHOUSEMEN, WINE MERCHANTS,

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OPPOSITE THE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

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THE MARITIME CREDIT COMPANY (Limited).

Incorporated under the Companies' Act, 1863, whereby the liability of each shareholder is limited.

Capital £1,000,000, in 20,000 shares of £50 each.

(With power to increase.)

First issue 10,000 shares.

Deposit on application £1 per share and £4 on allotment. It is not proposed to call up more than £12. 10s. per share, in instalments of £2. 10s., at intervals of not less than three months.

DIRECTORS.

Henry A. Hankey, Esq., Chairman of the New Zealand

Banking Corporation, London.

Carruthers Johnston, Esq. (Messrs. Samuel Johnston and Co.), Liverpool and Brazil.

Lightly Simpson, Esq., Director of the Great Eastern

Railway Company, London.

Henry Wilkin, Esq., Spring Gardens, London.

William Barter, Esq., Lloyds (Messrs. W. Barter and Co.),

Liverpool.

E. Stewart Jones, Esq. (Messrs. Jones, Palmer, and Co.),

Liverpool.

Alexander Hector, Esq. (Messrs. Alexander Hector and Co.), London and Bagdad.

Henry Woodfall, Esq., Director of the Empire Marine

Insurance Company, Liverpool.

John Brown, Esq. (late of Messrs. Grant, Smith, and Co.,

Calcutta), London.

W. Digby Smith, Esq. (Messrs. Smith, Preston and Co.),

Liverpool.

Frederick Levi, Esq. (Messrs. Philip Levi and Co.), London

and Adelaide.

Capt. Thos. A. Carr, Lloyds', London.

W. T. Makings, Esq., Temple, E.C., London.

Matthew M. Willis (Messrs. Willis and Co.), Liverpool.

BANKERS.

London—The Union Bank of London; the Agra and

Masterman's Bank (Limited). Liverpool—The North

Western Bank (Limited). Ireland—The Provincial

Bank of Ireland.

SOLICITORS.

London—Messrs. Davies, Son, Campbell, and Reeves.

Liverpool—Messrs. Lacey, Banner, Gill, and Lacey.

BROKERS.

London—Messrs. Sewell Brothers. Liverpool—Messrs.

Taunton and Co. Glasgow—Messrs. McKean and

Auld.

SURVEYOR.

Captain Wm. Champion, Lloyds.

TEMPORARY OFFICES.

40, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.

PROSPECTUS.

This Association is formed for the purpose of making advances, by way of mortgage or otherwise, on Shipping, Wharves, Ship Yards, Docks, Warehouses, and every description of Maritime Securities, and will conduct the usual business of a Credit Company.

A glance at the statistics of the registered tonnage of the United Kingdom, at the Tables of Imports and Exports, at the vast amount of property accumulated in our leading ports and at the great expansion of our Maritime Commerce generally, shows at once the favorable opening for the establishment of an Institution of this nature.

Up to the present time this extensive field for the profitable employment of capital remains a most wholly unprovided for.

In support of these statements the following statistics are submitted:—

Total value of Exports and Imports.

1854 £268,210,145

1853 £393,782,118

1854, upwards of 444,000,000

Number and Tonnage of Registered Sailing and Steam

Vessels (exclusive of River Steamers) of the United

Kingdom employed in the Home and Foreign Trade.

Vessels. Tons.

1854 17,407 3,729,093

1853 30,093 4,473,294

Tonnage of British and Foreign Vessels Entered and

Cleared with Cargoes only at Ports in the United

Kingdom.

British Tons. Foreign Tons. Total Tons.

1854 9,473,640 6,296,658 15,770,298

1853 13,923,108 8,458,549 22,381,657

Tonnage of British and Foreign Vessels Entered and

Cleared with Cargoes only (coastwise) at Ports of the

United Kingdom.

British Tons. Foreign Tons. Total Tons.

1854 12,762,107 46,483 12,808,590

1853 17,397,687 72,673 17,470,360

This Company will make advances for *agreed periods*, on Dock Warrants, Freight, &c., a species of security on the safety of which it is unnecessary to comment. Under this head may be classed advances on the hypothecation of goods and merchandise, a description of business which affords a very extensive and desirable field for the employment of Capital.

Advances on shipping will be made by way of mortgage, and further secured by Policies of Insurance. This branch of business is very lucrative where the Ships are carefully selected, and it has hitherto been chiefly in the hands of private capitalists, from whom Shipowners have, from necessity, been content to borrow at rates of interest varying from 10 to 15 per cent. and often more. The Company will also serve as a medium between capitalists and borrowers, who will undertake the general business of a Financial Association.

It will be seen, from a consideration of the above statement, that the Directors of the Maritime Credit Company aim at the opening of a general credit in aid of Commerce in all its branches, being an Institution designed to meet, in a complete and comprehensive manner, not only the wants of the Marine carrying trade, but the requirements of our maritime commerce generally; and to secure thereby the safe, constant, and profitable employment of a large amount of capital.

The Articles of Association may be seen at the Office of the Company.

Prospectuses and forms of application for Shares may be obtained from the Bankers, Brokers, and Solicitors, and at the Temporary Offices of the Company.

Application for Shares must be made in the form annexed to the prospectus, accompanied by the deposit of £1 per Share. If no allotment be made the deposit will be returned in full, and if a less number be also then applied for, the surplus will be used towards the payment in allotment.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

To the Directors of the Maritime Credit Company (Limited).

Gentlemen,—Having paid to the Bankers of the above-named Company the sum of £1, I hereby request that you will allot me Shares in the said Company, and I agree to accept such Shares, or any smaller number that may be allotted to me, and to become a Member of the Company, and I authorise you to place my name on the Register of Members in respect of the Shares to be allotted to me, and I agree to be bound by all the conditions and regulations contained in the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company, in manner provided by "The Companies' Act, 1863." And I authorise you to forward by post to my address, the Certificates of any Shares which may be allotted to me.

Dated this..... day of..... 1864.

Name in full.....

Firm (if any).....

Business or Profession.....

Place of Business.....

Residence.....

THE MARITIME CREDIT COMPANY (Limited).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the LIST of APPLICATIONS for SHARES will be CLOSED on WEDNESDAY, the 1st June, for London; and on THURSDAY, the 2nd June, for the Country.

DAVIES, SON, CAMPBELL & REEVE.

LACE, BANNER, GILL, & LACE.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA.

Incorporated by Royal Charter. Paid-up capital £681,000. Reserve Fund, £260,000.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts, payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Kandey, Singapore, Galle, Penang, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Mauritius, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the overland route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office, in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 2.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

Subscribed Capital, 2,000,000 taels, in 400 Shares of

5,000 taels each.

Paid up Capital, 200,000 taels.

DIRECTORS.

H. H. Wiggins, Esq., Manager Commercial Bank of India,

Chairman.

F. B. Johnson, Esq. (Messrs. Johnson and Co.).

H. D. Stewart, Esq. (Messrs. Turner and Co.).

F. Porter, Esq. (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston, and Co.).

J. Thorne, Esq. (Messrs. Thorne Brothers and Co.).

David Reid, Esq.

Agencies are about to be established at the several ports in China and Japan.

L. JOSEPHS, Secretary.

THE ORIENTAL AND GENERAL MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY,

8, Finch-lane, London, E.C.

LOSSES AND CLAIMS upon POLICIES granted by this Company can be made PAYABLE at the following places in India and China through the Company's Agents, as under:—

Bombay—Messrs. Ritchie, Stewart, and Co.

Calcutta—Messrs. Grant, Smith, and Co.

Madras—Messrs. Bainbridge, Byard, Gair, and Co.

Singapore—Messrs. Cumming, Beaver, and Co.

Hong Kong—Messrs. Johnson and Co.

Shanghai—Messrs. Johnson and Co.

JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

JOHN GOSNELL AND CO.'S PERFUMERY, PATRONISED BY

HER MAJESTY and the ROYAL FAMILY.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s COURT PERFUMES.—Queen Victoria's Bouquet, The Bride's Bouquet, Jockey Club, Guard's Own, Ess Bouquet, Military, Royal Yacht Club New Perfume—Extract of Flowers, Eugenie, Napoleon II., Frangipani, Wood Violet, Opera Bouquet, &c.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s FOUNTAIN PERFUMES for the BAL-ROOM.—A most elegant and useful invention, which cannot fail to be appreciated by the Ladies.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s REAL OLD BROWN WINDSOR SOAP.—A Toilet Soap of the finest quality and very superior fragrance. It differs so widely in composition from the ordinary Alkaline Soaps, that its frequent use is highly beneficial in removing all harshness and redness of the skin.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s CHERRY TOOTH PASTE gives the Teeth a pearl-like whiteness, protects the enamel from decay and imparts a pleasing fragrance to the breath.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s INSTANTANEOUS HAIR DYE.—The only Hair Dye which produces a good natural colour with perfect certainty, and with the least possible trouble.

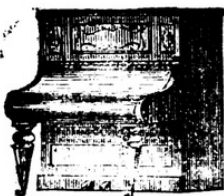
JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s PATENT TRICHO-SARON is adapted for universal use, and the most serviceable and convenient Hair Brush ever invented. Letters Patent Granted Nov. 6, 1852.

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MESSRS. RAND AND BECKLEY
(SUCCESSORS TO LAURIE, BEDFORD, AND RAND)
SADDLERS AND HARNESS MANUFACTURERS,
INVENTORS OF THE PATENT ELASTIC SADDLE.

MESSRS. R & B. have a large assortment of well-seasoned Saddlery and Harness suitable for India and the Colonies, always on hand.
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